FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

29 MAY 1984

Gulf War

Military, Shipping Situation — A communique broadcast by Baghdad Voice of the Masses radio claimed that two more vessels were destroyed by mines while attempting to flee the Iraqi naval and air attack in the Khowr-e Musa area on 25 May, thus bringing the total number of "enemy naval targets" destroyed that day to eight. Nevertheless, conditions at Khark Island to the south were "very satisfactory," with no delays in oil loading operations, according to an Iranian source cited by IRNA on 27 May. With Khark's "good defensive capability, there are no threats" to tankers loading at the island, the source charged. Iran's claim of normal activity at Khark came in contrast to an earlier INA report that tanker traffic to and from the island had "virtually stopped."

Meanwhile, Japanese shipowners and seamen agreed to stop loading oil from Kuwait and northern Saudi ports, KYODO announced. Kuwaiti officials, in press statements reported by KUNA, said Kuwait will not be harmed by the Japanese decision and noted that European countries have affirmed their willingness to continue sending tankers to Kuwait. British companies have asked their tankers not to enter the exclusion zone declared by Iraq around Khark and Bushehr, according to British oil sources cited by INA. Earlier, the Saudi oil minister warned that Lloyds of London might cancel insurance for tankers going to the Gulf, describing this as a hidden danger more serious than Iran's threat to close the Strait of Hormuz, KUNA reported.

Diplomatic Developments — Iran and Iraq blamed each other for the shipping crisis in statements carried by Tehran radio and INA over the weekend. The Iranian statement warned that Iran will reject any Security Council resolution that does not condemn Iraq as the "principal guilty party" for the attacks on Gulf shipping, while the Iraqi statement responded by accusing Iran of attempting to expand the area of conflict. A Kuwaiti official cited by KUNA likewise said that the attacks on Gulf states' tankers conceal "an invitation for foreign intervention."

In Saudi Arabia King Fahd expressed satisfaction at the results of efforts to contain the tense situation, according to an official statement on a 28 May Cabinet meeting reported by SPA. The king had earlier received Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, who conveyed a message from President Hafiz al-Asad concerning Syria's efforts to reduce tension and prevent an expansion of the war, SPA and Damascus television reported. A responsible Syrian source cited by Damascus radio accused Iraq of attempting to disrupt Syria's mediation efforts by escalating its military operations in the Gulf.

The ICO's Good Offices Committee also discussed the Iran-Iraq war at a preparatory meeting in Jidda attended by PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, the ICO secretary general, and the ambassadors of seven Islamic countries, SPA reported on 26 May. 'Arafat subsequently said he intends to launch a new initiative to end the war through the Good Offices Committee, according to KUNA, while the Malaysian foreign minister disclosed in remarks reported by Riyadh radio that the committee will consider a proposal to deploy an Islamic peacekeeping force along the Iran-Iraq border during its high-level meeting on 9 or 10 June.

Ayatollah Hoseyn 'Ali Montazeri said in a 25 May speech reported by Tehran radio that, if the Iraqi regime is deposed and power is shifted to "all groups and classes," Iran will not want reparations but will instead "render assistance" to Iraq.

Israel

Zore'a Report — Major General Me'ir Zore'a's commission of inquiry into the circumstances of the death of two terrorists captured on 12 April reached the conclusion that several individuals from the security forces committed felonies against the "terrorists" which caused the death of at least one of them, the defense minister's media adviser disclosed in an announcement carried by ITIM. Although both men received "operationally necessary" blows during their capture, the commission found that they were also beaten after being removed from the hijacked bus and subsequently died as a result of blows to the head. Noting the commission's finding that the security forces had received no orders to hurt the terrorists after their capture, the announcement said an investigation will be held to determine what legal steps should be taken against those responsible for the beatings. In IDF and Jerusalem radio interviews, Defense Minister Moshe Arens took a "grave" view of the incident but described it as a "special case" which will not happen again. He also expressed hope that PLO groups holding Israeli prisoners will guarantee their safety and well-being in order to reach "the exchange of prisoners which we are negotiating for at present."

U.S. Arms to Saudis — Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir reaffirmed Israel's opposition to the sale of Stinger missiles to Saudi Arabia and also promised that Israel will express its "absolute" opposition to U.S. plans to supply refueling aircraft, Jerusalem radio reported.

Egypt

A "large number" of people took part in People's Assembly voting over the weekend, which was held in a "relatively calm" atmosphere, MENA reported, adding that "some excesses" will be dealt with by officials of the main electoral committees. An Interior Ministry source cited by the agency termed the incidents "isolated cases." In one of the incidents, a Socialist Labor Party candidate was killed by a relative of a NDP candidate from the same constituency, according to a statement issued by the district attorney of Qina Governorate and reported by MENA.

Al-Wafd Party and National Progressive Unionist Party sources cited by KUNA raised allegations of election violations, including ballot rigging, burning of ballot boxes, and obstruction of opposition party election officials. Al-Wafd leader Fu'ad Siraj ad-Din said he has proof of vote rigging that he will produce at a forthcoming press conference, and he claimed that his party would have won 70 percent of the Assembly seats had there been no fraud, according to AFP. The Al-Wafd leader asserted that the party will use "all legal means" to defend its rights but will not boycott the Assembly, the agency added.

Initial results reported by MENA show the NDP leading its nearest competitor, the Al-Wafd, by a two-to-one margin in most of the districts reporting results. The MENA figures indicate voter turnout in these districts was less than 40 percent.

Lebanon

Military Situation — Three Israeli soldiers were killed and two others were wounded when their vehicles came under fire at the southern end of the Al-Biqa' valley on 27 May, Jerusalem radio announced. The ambush occurred near Kamid al-Lawz in an area which has become a focus for attacks on the IDF by infiltrators from Syrian-held territory, the radio noted. The clandestine Voice of Arab Lebanon radio spoke of tension along the Syrian-Israeli confrontation lines in the wake of the attack, asserting that the Israelis fired at Syrian positions that evening. Further south, another IDF soldier was wounded in a 28 May ambush near An-Nabatiyah, the IDF spokesman disclosed in an announcement reported by IDF Radio.

Beirut radio reported sporadic clashes across the contact lines in the capital in recent days. A number of Americans moved from the western sector to East Beirut in response to kidnap threats, and tight security measures were imposed at the American University of Beirut because of fears of an attack by Shi'ite extremists, according to the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon and AFP.

Political Developments — Israeli officials cited by Jerusalem radio "flatly" denied that the Lebanese Government has formally requested the closure of the Israeli representation office north of Beirut. Nevertheless, the Syrian paper *ATH-THAWRAH* welcomed the Lebanese Government's "national decision" to close the liaison office at Ad-Dubayyah, asserting in an editorial reviewed by Damascus radio that this "important step" completes the abrogation of the 17 May agreement.

Meanwhile, Karami announced in a statement broadcast by Beirut radio that the government will seek a vote of confidence from the Chamber of Deputies on 31 May. Earlier, a Lebanese magazine cited by KUNA claimed that President Amin al-Jumayyil and the national unity government headed by Karami were the target of a recent abortive coup attempt planned by pro-Israeli elements of the Lebanese Army and the Phalangist Lebanese Forces headed by Samir Ja'ja'. The magazine, *AL-KIFAH AL-'ARABI*, said the plot was foiled after being discovered by Lebanese Forces intelligence chief Elie Hubayqah, following which President al-Jumayyil asked Fadi Afram to dismiss Ja'ja' from his military position. Without mentioning this story, the Progressive Socialist Party's clandestine Voice of the Mountain radio subsequently reported that Ja'ja' has been dismissed from his command position in the Jubayl area.

Syria

Vice President Rif'at al-Asad arrived in Moscow 28 May at the invitation of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, TASS and Damascus radio announced. Following his arrival, Al-Asad and Candidate Member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo Vasiliy Kuznetsov held talks on developments in the Middle East, promotion of Syrian-Soviet cooperation, and the international situation, Damascus radio reported. During the talks, Al-Asad called for increased cooperation and condemned the war waged by the Iraqi regime against Iran.

PLO Affairs

Yasir 'Arafat and King Husayn discussed "all aspects" of developments in the Palestinian arena during talks in Amman on 26 May, Baghdad Voice of PLO radio reported. 'Arafat had said earlier that the resumed Palestinian-Jordanian dialogue would focus on the joint concept of holding an international conference on the Middle East, the radio noted.

Libya

Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri's "obsession" with setting up anti-Libyan terrorist camps led Libya to make preparations to form "suicide commandos" who will destroy all terrorist training camps in Sudan and liberate the Sudanese people from Numayri's rule, according to an article in *AZ-ZAHF AL-AKHDAR* reported by JANA. The article asserted that if the United States, Britain, and their "stooges" harbored enemies of the Libyan people, this implied that they had decided to bear the consequences of these actions. In a related report, JANA claimed that captured "terrorists" belonging to the Muslim Brotherhood had given complete information on the anti-Libyan training camps in Sudan. The "terrorists" confessed that instructions for sabotage and assassination operations in Libya were issued by Numayri, according to JANA.

Algeria

The Movement for Democracy in Algeria held its inaugural congress in France over the weekend, Paris radio disclosed. Former President Ahmed Ben Bella, the founder and leader of the new opposition party, sharply criticized the present regime during a speech at the conference, calling for a pluralist system in Algeria and for the return of Algerian emigrants to their home country.

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'Arafat Confers With Bahrain, UAE Leaders

JN251714 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 25 May 84

[Text] Brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] met with Bahraini Amir Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah in Manama today. The radio correspondent said that the two sides discussed the latest developments in the Gulf region, the Palestinian issue, and the international arena. Our correspondent added that Brother Abu 'Ammar briefed the Bahraini amir on efforts that are being exerted to convene an emergency session of the Islamic Good Offices Committee in order to end the Iraqi-Iranian war.

Brother Abu 'Ammar also met with UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan. The two sides discussed the latest developments in the Palestinian issue, the Arab situation, the serious events resulting from the escalation of the Iraqi-Iranian war, and ways to quickly end this war.

'Arafat Addresses ICO Committee on Gulf War

LD261323 Riyadh SPA in English 1221 GMT 26 May 84

[Text] Jidda May 26, SPA — The Islamic Conference Organisation (ICO) Good Offices Committee began a preparatory meeting here today at an ambassadorial level. The meeting was attended by Palestine Liberation Organisation Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, ICO Secretary General Habib Chatti and the ambassadors of Turkey, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Malaysia. Guinea, Senegal and Gambia accredited to the Kingdom. The meeting was addressed by 'Arafat who stressed the importance of the meeting in view of the dangerous situation in the region caused by serious escalations of the Iran-Iraq war which was threatening an international intervention in the region. 'Arafat said the Islamic and Arab nations were paying the costs of the war continuation. The Palestinian leader said the committee will hold a meeting at the heads of state level by the first week of June. The meeting was also addressed by Chatti, who also warned against serious developments in the region caused by the Iran-Iraq war, now in its fourth year.

Chatti said he had asked Iran and Iraq to fly to Tehran and Baghdad to discuss with the two sides means of avoiding the expansion of the war, but unfortunately he had not received an answer from Tehran yet. Meanwhile, 'Arafat, after today's meeting, appealed to Iran and Iraq on the occasion of the advent of holy Ramadan to stop fighting and put an end to bloodshed. Chatti said a new Palestinian initiative to reach an end to the war will be presented to the upcoming meeting. ICO groups 42 Moslem states and PLO.

San'a' VOP Reports 'Arafat-Fahd Meeting

GF271640 San'a' Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 27 May 84

[Excerpt] Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], chairman of the PLO Executive Committee and commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, has met with King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz of Saudi Arabia. During the meeting, they discussed developments in the Gulf and the Palestinian situation.

'Arafat Attends Algiers AAPSO Conference

Arrives in Algiers

GF271642 San'a' Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 27 May 84

[Excerpt] Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], chairman of the PLO Executive Committee and commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, arrived in Algiers today to deliver the Palestinian delegation's speech to the sixth conference of African and Asian People's Organization of Solidarity with Palestinian people which will begin later today. He will also hold talks with Algerian officials on the latest developments in the Palestinian cause.

Meets Algerian Officials

LD272148 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1702 GMT 27 May 84

[Excerpt] Work of the sixth Conference of AAPSO opened today at the Palace of Nations with the participation of delegations from member countries and international and regional organizations, including an important delegation representing the PLO. This morning Brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], chairman of the PLO Executive Committee and commander in chief of the forces of the Palestinian revolution, arrived in Algiers to take part in it. Also the Palestinian delegation led by Brother Abu Mazin [Mahmud 'Abbas], member of the PLO Executive Committee and of Fatah Central Committee, arrived. The brother leader met a number of Algerian officials, foremost Brother Mohammad Cherif Messaadia, member of the FLN Political Bureau and head of the Permanent Secretariat of the Central Committee. Brother Abu 'Ammar is to address the conference.

Attends Opening of Conference

LD280058 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 27 May 84

[Text] The sixth conference of AAPSO opened this afternoon at the Palace of Nations at the Pines Club under the supervision of Brother Mohamed Cherif Messaadia, member of the Political Bureau and official of the Permanent Secretariat of the Central Committee, in the presence of Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, Mr Sam Nujoma, leader of SWAPO, and Mohamed Abdelaziz, Polisario secretary general. About 100 delegations, representing African and Asian countries, political parties, a number of international and regional organizations, and representatives of national liberation movements in Asia, Africa, and Latin America, are participating.

Brother Mohamed Cherif Messaadia spoke on the occasion. In the name of the Algerian political leadership, he delivered a greeting of fraternity and struggle to the participants. He said: We welcome you to Algeria, in whose liberation revolution you participated and you still are an asset of which the Algerian revolution is proud as it continues the battle for development.

He said the organization, while holding its sixth conference, has achieved great victories and made a great contribution to the liberation of many peoples. It continues its militant action. He added: But this does not make us forget that there are still peoples under the yoke of colonialism, others struggling for their economic and cultural liberation, and still others suffering from economic persecution. On this occasion, we recall that in this hall the non-aligned countries a few years ago held their fourth conference, which raised the idea of dialogue between the south and the north, or the establishment of a new international economic order. This voice, despite its righteousness, continues to face selfishness and the means of monopoly. But this is not strange. It is not strange coming from imperialist regimes which were brought up and developed on the basis of hegemony, exploitation, and persecution.

Brother Mohamed Cherif Messaadia said the AAPSO conference will evaluate the march and draw up lessons in order to come up with a program of action capable of confronting the challenges of the future and contribute to the establishment of a new international economic order, a just economic order. It will also contribute to the achievements of peace and security in the world, which are objectives of all free men. He said: Once again we welcome you, we wish you a good stay, and complete success in your work. Brother (Mohamed Yazid), member of the Permanent Secretariat of the Central Committee in charge of the council for friendship and solidarity with peoples, was elected president of the bureau of the conference.

The work of the sixth AAPSO conference was characterized by comments from the secretary general of the organization and a number of representatives of national liberation movements. The work will be resumed tomorrow with the presentation of the committee bureaus, and then work will be started at committee level. The conference will discuss a number of international current issues, most importantly the issues of liberation and development in the Third World, disarmament, and the consolidation of nonalignment in its struggle against imperialism, colonialism, Zionism, and racism.

Denounces 'Different Plots'

LD281502 Algiers APS in English 1004 GMT 28 May 84

[Excerpts] Algiers, 28/05/84 (APS) — The 6th congress of the Organization of Solidarity With Afro-Asian peoples (OSPAA) placed under the watchword "anti-imperialist popular solidarity for independence, development, and peace" was officially opened yesterday afternoon in the Palais des Nations, Algiers. Right before Mr Messaadia, the OSPAA secretary general and president of the preparatory committee of the 6th congress, Mr Nouri Abderazak, recalled the context which marked the birth of the movement of Afro-Asian solidarity and the principles it is continuously advocating to achieve decolonisation, freedom, independence, peaceful coexistence,and non-alignment. Since Bandoug, Mr Nouri Abderazak said, African, Asian known big chargements. [sentence as received]

Their countries, liberated today from the colonical yoke and the imperialist pressures, constitute a united and solidary front able to counter all the plots, all the intrigues, threats, and manipulations that try to reconsider their independence, their security and their freedom.

Mr Alfred Nzo, ANC secretary general, further took the floor to recall the military, political and diplomatic situation in South Africa and Austral Africa following the numerous offensives launched by Pretoria racist regime against the liberated movements and the front line countries. Algiers sitting, [as received] the ANC representative pointed out, have to take efficient decisions which will enable us to face the different attacks of the imperialism and its allies. "That's why, he prevised, [as received] the 6th congress must deal with the nature and objectives of the imperialist offensive, define our answer to (?their) offensive and the way to break it to ensure the victory of our peoples."

As for Mr Yasir 'Arafat, he denounced the different plots hatched against African, Asian, and Latin American peoples, restating the will of the Palestinian resistance to carry on the struggle for liberation till the total victory. Struggling Palestine stands up for peoples who oppose colonialism, neo-colonialism, imperialism Zionism, racism, and apartheid, Mr 'Arafat concluded.

After he praised Algeria acting solidarity with the people's cause for liberation, SWAPO president put the stress of OSPAA role in the support and solidarity with struggling African and Asian peoples. "We must see to it that our decisions meet with the reality to ensure the full independence to peoples who are still struggling," Dr Nujoma mainly said.

The last orator, Mr Mohamed Abdelaziz, SADR president, Polisario Front secretary general, underlined the important [as received] of the 6th congress of OSPAA "not only because it is held in Algiers which remains the symbol of the armed struggle and the rendezvous of the revolutionaries, but also because it held in period marked by huge difficulties and characterized by an aggression against the movement of peoples' emancipation. We, Saharoui, are sure that our sittings will come out with important decisions that will reactivate the movement of solidarity and enable liberation movements present in Algiers to make their causes better known," Mr Abdelaziz stated. "The Saharoui people who struggle for independence is certain of its victory," he went on.

Hits 'U.S. Scheme'

JN281854 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 28 May 84

[Text] Brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] arrived in Kuwait from Algeria this morning on a short visit during which he will meet with ranking Kuwaiti officials.

Brother Abu 'Ammar attended the meetings of the sixth AAPSO conference in Algiers. Brother Abu 'Ammar delivered a speech at the opening session in which he stressed that what is currently taking place in the Gulf is the completion of the U.S. scheme which started with the Beirut siege and which seeks to Balkanize the region. Addressing the conferees, Brother Abu 'Ammar said: I have come from the Arab Gulf region where I and some of the brothers are trying to stop what may happen there.

Through the escalation of the Iraqi-Iranian war and the attempt to mobilize U.S., British, and French fleets, the United States is trying to obtain a foothold to occupy this region.

Brother Abu 'Ammar said: I sent an urgent message to Indira Gandhi, chairperson of the Nonaligned Conference, calling for a halt to the Iraqi-Iranian war in accordance with the resolutions we adopted in New Delhi last year. I also called for the convocation of an urgent meeting of the Islamic Good Offices Committee that will try to halt this destructive war and check the consequences it may have on the Iraqi and Iranian people, the peoples in the Middle East, and the Palestinian people, and which would affect the situation in the Middle East, Asia, and Africa.

Brother leader Abu 'Ammar appealed to the conference to adopt a decision that will help the efforts seeking to halt this war. The peoples in Asia and Africa will be the only ones to be harmed by this war while the arms dealers in America and Europe will be the only beneficiaries. Brother Abu 'Ammar reviewed the circumstances of the Zionist occupation of Lebanon, the siege of Beirut, the battles in Tripoli, the martyrdom of thousands of Palestinians in the war in 1982, and U.S. attempts, through General Haig, Kissinger, and others, to Balkanize the region and establish sectarian states. Abu 'Ammar said: What is taking place in the Gulf is a completion of the U.S. scheme which began in Lebanon.

Brother Abu 'Ammar explained that the United States sent a letter to the United Nations in which it spoke about PLO interference in Latin America. He added, we in the PLO, in spite of this letter, will continue to support the revolutionaries in Latin America, Asia, and Africa.

Brother Abu 'Ammar described the recent meeting in Algiers between the Palestinian factions which did not take up arms against the Palestinian sons as a successful meeting, during which several principles were adopted to promote Palestinian action on the basis of resolutions adopted by the 13th PNC meeting which convened in Algiers. Brother Abu 'Ammar thanked the USSR, Algeria, and Cuba for the mediation they are undertaking with Syria to have it join the PLO in the advanced trench against imperialism, colonialism, Balkanization, and sectarian partitioning. On Cyprus, Brother Abu 'Ammar said: We support the unity of Cyprus — land and people.

Brother Abu 'Ammar concluded: We are optimistic that our side will be victorious and that we will establish our independent state in Palestine with Jerusalem as its capital, and that the revolution will continue until the Palestinian flag is hoisted over Jerusalem as the Algerian revolutionaries had hoisted the Algerian flag over the Algerian capital.

INA Reports Palestinian Assassinated in Cyprus

JN290831 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0820 GMT 29 May 84

[Text] Nicosia, 29 May (INA) — 'Abdat Sa'ati, a 30-year old Palestinian living in Nicosia, was assassinated today. The INA correspondent says that a taxi driver informed the police about the incident.

2 PLO Dissidents on 'Brink of Rupture'

NC290856 Paris AFP in English 0843 GMT 29 May 84

[Text] Beirut, May 29 (AFP) — The two men who led the Palestinian revolt against Yasir 'Arafat in Lebanon last year have fallen out over whether to further jeopardise Palestinian unity in their bid to topple the PLO chairman, an informed source here said today. Colonel Abu Salih [Nimr Salih], pro-Libyan and reputedly the theorist of the dissidence movement, wants to replace Mr 'Arafat as chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) even if this brings about a schism within the PLO. However, Colonel Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa Muragha], the dissidents' military commander, favours the line defended by Mr 'Arafat's moderate opponents, who want more democracy to "clip Mr 'Arafat's wings" while safeguarding PLO unity. According to unconfirmed reports, the two men are on the brink of rupture and Abu Salih has already withdrawn from the dissidence group which has its headquarters in Damascus, Syria. The sources said the vast majority of Palestinian dissidents supported Col Abu Musa and that Col Abu Salih's faction consisted only of a few cadres.

The Provisional Revolutionary Council, which directs the dissidence, discussed the internal situation of the movement at a meeting in the Syrian capital on Saturday, a communique issued after the meeting said.

Islamic Committee To Consider Peace-Keeping Force

GF280848 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 0800 GMT 28 May 84

[Excerpt] Malaysian Foreign Affairs Minister Ghazali Shafie today stated that Malaysian Deputy Prime Minister Musa Hitam will attend the meeting of the Islamic Good Offices Committee which will be held to solve the Iraqi-Iranian dispute. He added that the meeting will be held on 9 or 10 June to deal with a number of matters involving the Iraqi-Iranian war. He noted that the committee which will convene in Jidda will discuss a proposal to deploy an Islamic peace-keeping force along the Iraqi-Iranian border for the aim of helping to attain peace between the two countries.

GULF AFFAIRS

Kuwait, Qatar Ask Security Council Action on Iran

LD251745 Kuwait KUNA in English 1452 GMT 25 May 84

[Text] United Nations, May 25 (KUNA) — Kuwaiti Deputy Premier, Foreign and Information Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad appealed Friday to the Security Council for quick action under the U.N. charter to stop "the continued Iranian aggression against world peace and security."

Shaykh Sabah opened the council debate on the complaint by the six-member Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), seeking a resolution that would condemn air strikes on oil tankers sailing to and from Gulf countries.

The Kuwaiti official accused Iran of aiming to drag other countries into the more than 4-1/2-year-old war between Iran and Iraq and he warned this might "lead to direct confrontation between several powers at the expense of the independence and the interest of our peoples."

Shaykh Sabah said, "These apprehensions support the gravity of the situation in which we find ourselves and which calls upon us to move quickly to stop the hostilities."

Shaykh Sabah called on the council to investigate the situation in the Gulf under Chapter 6 of the U.N. Charter which calls on parties to settle their disputes by peaceful means of their choice.

However, if Iran continues those acts of aggression and illegal practices against Kuwaiti tankers, the council should take the "appropriate resolutions and measures as provided for by Chapter 7 of the United Nations Charter.

"We call upon your august council whose jurisdiction it is to maintain world peace and security to asume its responsibilities," Shaykh Sabah said.

He reminded the council of the gravity of the situation and said strategic and security reasons make it imperative that the Gulf becomes an "oasis of peace and security."

If the area is exposed to turbulance and chaos, Shaykh Sabah warned, "the interests of the entire world will be affected, the movement and the growth of the world economy will be dealt a great setback and any change in the balance of political power in the area will hurt international interests, the very thing which may lead the entire area to unpredictable consequences."

Shaykh Sabah's appeal came against the background of new attacks on Arabian Gulf Shipping by both Iran and Iraq Thursday.

In his lengthy statement, Shaykh Sabah recalled Kuwaiti peace efforts since the beginning of the war in September of 1980, and he said the latest aggressions by Iran constitute a great danger to the stability and security in the region and jeopardise the interests of many nations.

"Together with my colleague, the minister of foreign affairs of the United Arab Emirates, I personally went on a mission last year to Tehran where we met the president of the Islamic Republic of Iran and other top officials.

Then we pursued our mission in Baghdad. We also worked within the framework of the Nonaligned movement and the Organisation of Islamic Conference.

"We invited the big powers to make further efforts in the interests of world peace and security, we called upon the United Nations to move quickly by giving this cause an attention commensurate with the gravity of the situation.

"We appealed to the two parties more than once to put an end to this bleeding which exhausted huge human and material resources in the two countries," Shaykh Sabah said.

"Unfortunately, all those efforts have not only been met by Iran with the lack of response, but also going beyond that with her attacks on our tankers in the high seas outside the area of military operations declared by the two warring parties," The Kuwaiti foreign minister said.

Subsequent protests by kuwait to Iran and condemnation of Iran by the Arab League last weekend as well as U.N. resolutions calling for an end to the conflict equally failed to stop Iran for continuing its aggressions, he said.

Shaykh Sabah cited a number of international conventions upholding the right of navigation, the last of which was the U.N. Convention of the law of the Sea of 1982.

"The Iranian acts of aggression are in violation of all those agreements. They also constitute a clearcut violation of the bona fide principle, which is considered as one of the main rules of the interantional custom which make it imperative that all countries should fulfill their contractual commitments in good faith," Shaykh Sabah said.

"When we repeatedly state that those acts of aggression constitute a threat to world peace and security, we say it out of complete conviction," he said.

The draft resolution, submitted by the GCC members Thursday, reaffirms the freedom of navigation in the Area. A number of deleagtes from the nonaligned group have expressed concern that the text is too one-sided against Iran and may not win a majority in the 15-nation council.

Other speakers at Friday's session included the foreign minister of Qatar, Shaykh Ahmed ibn Sayf Al Thani and Chedli Klibi, the secretary-general of the Arab League.

Al Thani, the Qatari foreign minister who was the number two speaker, shared Shaykh Sabah's concern that the persistence of tensions in the Gulf could lead to the intervention of other parties in the conflict.

"This is something which can bring the countries of the region into a military situation and which can seriously endanger international peace and security," the Qatari official said. "Our state denounces this Iranian aggression, and we ask the Islamic Republic of Iran to respect the principle of good neighborliness and to respect international conventions, he said.

While pushing the region into an international conflict because of the egopolitical situation of the countries in the region, the Iranian aggression not only affects the vital interests of the Gulf States but also causes a very serious threat to world peace and security, Al Thani said.

He reminded the council of its "historic responsibility" to prevent aggression against states that are not parties to the conflict and to ensure the freedom of navigation and trade in regional waters.

"Therefore, Iran must be dissuaded from its acts of aggression against our states, and this is the task which must be discharged by your distinguished council," he said, and he asked the council to adopt the GCC draft resolution.

Speaking on behalf of Saudi Arabia, Ambassador Samir ash-Shihabi warned Iran not to mistake his country's political and moral attitude and its quest for peace as weakness. The diplomat reminded Iran that Saudi Arabia has always tried to cooperate with the new rulers in Tehran and has made every effort — unilaterally and collectaively — to strengthen its relationship with the Islamic republic and put an end to the Iran-Iraq war.

While recognising the difficulties Iran and its people face, "some of those in iran misunderstand the kingdom's stand and fail to appreciate our determination to curtail any aggression," Ash-Shihabi said.

"Can the world accept that Iran should carry its aggression into third countries which are not in a state of war with it? should not Iran be faced with a firm and decisive stand from this council wherein the council condemns an unjustified attack?" he asked.

He urged the council to express firmly its determination not to permit any aggression against third world parties in the Gulf area that are not participating in the war.

"If the present attitude of Iran is permitted to prevail, the international community will suffer much greater and more dangerous consequences than would be the case if it took a firm and clearly pronounced position here now," he said. Ash-Shihabi appealed to the council to take "a clear and categorical determination to protect its interests and sovereignty.

Muhammad as-Sallam of North Yemen was no less forceful in denouncing the Iranian air attacks, describing them as a threat to the security of the region and even of the world. He appealed to Iran to put an end to the war and accept the good offices of the secretary-general of the United Nations and the Security Council.

The Senegalese representative, Massamba Sarre, spoke of the "grave implications" the situation in the Gulf could have on international peace and security, and he pledged his country's continued effort to bring about peace between the two countries. Although the Nonaligned Movement and the Islamic conference had tried their hand at bringing peace to the region, "it is here in the United Nations the task must be accomplished," Sarre said.

Chedli Klibi, the secretary-general of the Arab League, denounced the Iranian attacks on unarmed and commercial tankers outside the war zone.

"The Iranian government has rejected moves at peace and negotiations put forward by the nonaligned states and other intergovernmental organisations," Klibi said, and he warned that if shipping in the Gulf is threatened it would invite the big powers to interfere.

GCC Secretary General on UNSC Resolution

GF260852 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0755 GMT 26 May 84

[Excerpt] New York, 26 May (WAKH) — GCC Secretary General 'Abdallah Bisharah has expressed full confidence that the draft resolution which the Gulf group at the United Nations has presented to the Security Council will receive enough support from the Security Council. In a statement to the WAKH correspondent in New York, the GCC secretary general said he felt this support from the intensive contacts which he held with a number of representatives of the member-countries of the Security Council. He recalled that this is the first time in Arab Gulf history that the GCC countries have resorted to the Security Council. If this has a meaning, it indicates our serious stand, he said. We came to the Security Council to affirm to world public opinion that the aggressive policy which Iran has adopted is the policy which has ignited the war and his led to the subsequent serious repercussions in world security and peace, he added.

The GCC secretary general emphasized that the Gulf waters will not return to normal so long as Iran continues its policy of blocking shipping in the Arab Gulf. Bisharah asserted that the resolution which the Security Council will adopt will be a true embodiment of the verdict which the international community will pass on Iran and that it will imply a moral message which reflects the Arab Gulf countries' deep conviction of the need to peacefully resolve regional disputes through international arbitration in the Security Council.

Kuwaiti Interior Official on GCC Security Coordination

GF261118 Jidda Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 26 May 84

[Text] Major General Yusuf Badr al-Khurafi, in a press statement published today, described security cooperation among the GCC countries as excellent and said that it continues as normal. He noted that there is a draft project to unify the emblem of the GCC passports after agreement on a GCC emblem and color. The project is being studied, and it will be implemented once it has been decided, he said. He pointed out that there is a special committee to deal with any emergency Kuwait might be subjected to as a result of the Iraqi-Iranian war. The committee has held many meetings and has put forth a comprehensive plan ready for execution in the event of any emergency.

29 May GCC Council Session Postponed

LD271121 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1017 GMT 27 May 84

[Text] Riyadh, 27 May (SPA) — It was announced at the headquarters of the GCC General Secretariat today that the 11th ordinary session of the GCC Ministerial Council, which was scheduled for Tuesday, 29 May, will be postponed. The postponement of the session is due to the presence of the Kuwaiti deputy premier, foreign minister, and minister of information, Shaykh Sabah al-'Ahmad al-Jabir as-Sabah; the Qatari minister of state for foreign affairs, Shaykh Ahmad ibn Sayf; the Bahraini foreign minister, Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak; and GCC General Secretary 'Abdallah Bisharah in New York to submit the GCC members states' viewpoint to the UN Security Council regarding recent developments in the Gulf region. The date of the meeting will be decided after the Security Council concludes its debates on the issue of the Gulf tankers.

Sixty Oil Tankers Said Docked at UAE Ports

GF280500 Manama GULF DAILY NEWS in English
28 May 84 p 1

[Excerpt] More than 60 tankers are docked off the United Arab Emirates ports of Al-Fujayrah and Khawr Fakkan waiting for orders to load oil from Kuwaiti, Saudi Arabian, Iranian, and UAE oil terminals.

The number has increased from about ten tankers usually docked off the two ports because of attacks on shipping in the Gulf.

Leading officials of Gulf marine insurance companies met in Manama yesterday to discuss developments in the "tanker war".

Mr. 'Abd al-'Aziz at-Turki, general manager of Saudi National Company for Marine Transportation said, the meeting was attended by managers of dry docks in Gulf states.

GCC To Submit Joint Resolution on Shipping in Gulf

LD290858 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0749 GMT 29 May 84

[Fayzal Az-Zayd Dispatch from New York]

[Excerpt] New York, 29 May [KUNA] — The GCC member-countries will submit a collective draft resolution to the Nonaliged Movement and UN Security Council meetings scheduled for today. The draft resolution will denounce recent Iranian attacks on vessels traveling to and from Kuwaiti and Saudi ports.

The draft resolution, which KUNA has managed to obtain, reiterates freedom of navigation in international waters and routes from and to the installations of littoral states which are not party to the conflict. It asks all states to respect the territorial security of these countries.

The draft resolution will ask for an immediate halt to Iranian aggression and for Iran to refrain from molesting vessels traveling to and from the ports of these countries.

The draft resolution also states that if these attacks continue, then a second meeting will be held to consider the adoption of effective measures compatible with the gravity of the situation and capable of guaranteeing freedom of navigation in the region.

BAHRAIN

Foreign Minister Leaves for Security Council Session

GF270520 Manama GULF DAILY NEWS in English
27 May 84 p 1

[Text] Bahrain's Foreign Minister Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah, left for New York early today to participate in the United Nations Security Council debate on the draft resolution that has been presented by the GCC six states against Iranian aggression on Saudi and Kuwait tankers.

The foreign minister will speak before the Security Council on Tuesday, and will present Bahrain's point of view on this issue.

The ambassador Dr Wasfi al-Namir and Khalid al-Musallam, the first secretary at the Foreign Ministry are accompanying the minister.

KUWAIT

Foreign Minister, Iranian Diplomat on UNSC Debate

LD251120 Kuwait KUNA in English 0953 GMT 25 May 84

[Text] United Nations, May 25 (KUNA) — Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad, the deputy premier, foreign and information minister of Kuwait, met Thursday afternoon with Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar to discuss the widening conflict in the Arabian Gulf Area.

Sitting in on the meeting was the foreign minister of Qatar, Sheikh Ahmad ibn Sayf al-Thani.

A spokesman said the two Arab foreign ministers explained to the secretary-general the position of the Gulf Co-operation Council (GCC) regarding the Iranian attacks on tankers in the Arabian Gulf.

The GCC is seeking Security Council condemnation of Iran for interfering with tanker movement at a meeting of the council beginning Friday morning.

Asked if the GCC members would be prepared to tone down the language of the draft, considered too one-sided [word indistinct] Iran by Security Council members, Shaykh Sabah told reporters: "We don't have any official answer yet, I hope it will succeed."

An Iranian diplomat told KUNA he still does not know whether Iran will participate in the council debate beginning Friday.

"We haven't received instructions from our government as yet. If they discuss the navigation issue only, I suppose we can participate, but if they want to talk about the war, we will not."

Minister Views Tanker Attacks, Syrian Visit to Iran

LD271503 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1325 GMT 27 May 84

[Excerpts] Kuwait, 27 May (KUNA) — Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs 'Abd al-'Aziz Husayn has announced that the deliberate attacks against oil tankers belonging to Arab Gulf countries conceals an invitation for foreign intervention in the region. He stressed that every precaution has been taken in order to make the Gulf a secure water passage for transporting the oil products of the region's states.

After the weekly meeting of the Council of Ministers today, the minister informed journalists that matters pertaining to the export of Kuwaiti oil were moving with great caution; however, average production is being maintained. He said that the attacks which have taken place against tankers have undoubtedly affected some firms and curbed the operation of sending ships to the Gulf. But Kuwait, with its special capabilities and good contacts, will be able to overcome the difficulties placed in its way. The minister expressed his hope that the unanimous international criticism will be an impetus to stop the indiscriminate shelling of fleets belonging to countries which are not party to the regrettable war that has been going on for over 4 years between Iraq and Iran.

Regarding the possibility of the war radius being extended, 'Abd al-'Aziz Husayn said that everyone has heard about the mobilization of the big powers military capabilities. Oil is not an economic item of the producing countries alone, but is one of the world's important energy sources. Its production must be maintained for the good of all countries. "This is why we believe that the deliberate attack against Gulf country tankers conceals an invitation for a foreign intervention. We are very concerned that this will not happen."

In reply to a question about the results of Syrian contacts with Iran and the outcome of Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam's visit to Tehran, the minister of state said that Damascus has not contacted Kuwait on this subject. We have not received any news regarding this matter. Concerning the implementation of the Arab joint defense agreement, the minister said that Kuwait, after the incidents which have taken place in the Gulf, has submitted the issue to the Arab League Council which, in turn, has decided to refer the matter to the UN security Council after the unanimous agreement of those present.

Official Says Japan To Suffer From Port Boycott

LD280813 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0710 GMT 28 May 84

[Text] Kuwait, 28 May (KUNA) *AL-QABAS* cites a senior Kuwaiti official who said today that Japan will be the side that loses from stopping its oil tankers from going to the Kuwaiti and northern Saudi ports in the Arabian Gulf. The official, whose name the newspaper did not mention and said only that he is "senior," said that Kuwait "will not be harmed at all by the Japanese decision, but Japan will be harmed by boycotting our ports."

He stressed that Japan buys a small percentage of the Kuwaiti production, and most of what it buys is refined products and not crude oil. He mentioned that the Japanese have to honor their contracts with Kuwait, and these contracts specify the attendance of the Japanese ships to carry these products.

The same source pointed out that the Japanese decision has no effect on the traffic of Kuwaiti oil and its exportation to the rest of the world. He stressed that the movement of Kuwaiti tankers is going on around the clock according to their normal schedule, and they normally undertake the shipping of most of the Kuwaiti production of crude and refined oil.

Oil Minister Warns Against Stopping Gulf Tankers

LD290807 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0736 GMT 29 May 84

[Text] Kuwait, 29 May (KUNA) — The Kuwaiti oil and finance minister, Shaykh 'Ali al-Khalifah as-Sabah, has warned that any country that stops sending its oil tankers to the Gulf ports "will lose much." In a statement to the Kuwaiti paper *AL-ANBA'*, published here today, he affirmed that threats by any country to stop the dispatch of its oil tankers to the Gulf ports will rebound with losses on it alone, and "in no way will these threats affect our oil production and our commitments toward the world countries with whom we have specific contracts. No change has taken place or will take place in regard to them." He pointed out that the world market has a huge surplus of oil tankers and consequently it would be possible to find alternative tankers for the tankers of countries that hesitate to send their tankers to the Gulf ports including the ports of Kuwait.

Oil Tankers To Keep to Schedule, Official Says

LD290901 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0803 GMT 29 May 84

[Text] Kuwait, 29 May (KUNA) — The chairman of the board of directors of the Kuwaiti Oil Tanker Company, 'Abd al-Fattah al-Badr, has affirmed that Kuwait has not and will not stop exporting its oil as usual and will not change the schedule of its oil tankers' trips. In a statement to Kuwaiti *AL-QABAS*, published here today, Al-Badr said that he does not think that Kuwait has any intention of sending patrol boats equipped with antiaircraft missiles to escort the oil tankers as such a plan would be difficult and ineffective from both the technical and military points of view.

He said that in his opinion, the best solution was to provide an air cover for the tankers by the Kuwaiti Air Force.

He affirmed that all the countries which send tankers to Kuwait will not follow Japan's suit which has decided to step sending its tankers to the ports of Kuwait and Saudi Arabic. Kuwait, he said, has received official affirmations from France, Britain, Sweden and other countries that they will continue to send their tankers to Kuwait. But he pointed out that some seamen's unions in the oil importing countries might exert pressure on their governments to follow Japan's suit or demand double pay and insurance cover.

Al-Badr expressed his belief that the foreign tankers were not exposed to danger relatively in the Gulf waters but that only the Kuwaiti and Arab tankers are the ones against which there are aggressive intentions. With regard to Lloyds' decision to increase insurance premiums on tankers traveling to the northern part of the Gulf by 150 percent, 'Abd al-Fattah al-Badr affirmed that this will not affect the Kuwaiti oil tankers because they are insured by other insurance companies which increased their premiums by 0.25 percent only, in addition to 1 percent on the tankers' loads.

Daily Calls for Supporting Iraq 'By All Means'

LD291114 Kuwait KUNA in English 1014 GMT 29 May 84

[Text] Kuwait, May 29 (KUNA) — Expressing pessimism about a United Nations proposal condemning Iran for its attacks on Kuwaiti and Saudi oil tankers, *AL-ANBA'* newspaper Tuesday said the only choice left is to confront Iran through supporting Iraq by all means.

"We have to declare our disappointment to the U.N. secretary general's statement on reaching a decision acceptable to all parties, or what others called a 'balanced decision'," said *AL-ANBA'*, "which means reaching a decision that pleases the murderer and the victim alike."

The paper added: "This disappointment is not a surprise for us, because we have seen it felt by others."

"The choice is clear," *AL-ANBA'* pointed out, "either submission or confrontation."

"Since we abhor submission, then confrontation is the only choice, even when it takes preparation, and immediate moves in its direction."

AL-ANBA' noted that "as a country, we do not possess the military capability to secure our freedom in the face of any foreign aggression, and also the Gulf Cooperation Council member states have failed in reaching a unified view on the (Iranian) aggressions."

The paper cautioned against utilizing the Kuwaiti-British joint defense agreement, saying "applying the agreement would provide us with security against attacks on our country, but it can also involve us in military pacts."

"If we refuse submission, realising the GCC cannot provide protection of our freedom and sovereignty, and since we do not allow our selves to be caught offguard by the U.S. and Israel, then our only choice is to turn to Baghdad."

The paper pointed out that "Iraq has proven to be the only power capable of defeating the Iranian aggression on its lands."

It called for bolstering support to Iraq, "since Iran insists on considering us partners in the war, threatening our internal security and planting seeds of religious discrimination in our daily lives." *AL-ANBA'* said, by supporting Iraq "we will not subject and surrender ourselves to the Iranians, and will avoid placing ourselves at the mercy of the West who is joining Iran in a conspiracy against anything Arab."

SAUDI ARABIA

Oil Minister Fears Gulf Insurance Withdrawal

LD251538 Kuwait KUNA in English 1426 GMT 25 May 84

[Text] Geneva, May 25 (KUNA) — Saudi Arabia's oil minister, Shaykh Ahmad Zaki Yamani, expressed fears Friday that Lloyds of London could cancel insurance for tankers going to the Gulf, a move which would amount to closing the Strait of Hormuz.

Shaykh Yamani described the possible move as a hidden danger more serious than Iran's threat to close the strait.

Such a step by Lloyds would cause a shortage of around four million barrels a day, definitely increase oil prices, and perhaps seriously affect the West's economic recovery, the Saudi minister said.

"Lloyds might cancel insurance for Gulf navigation. This is equal to closing the Strait of Hormuz. It is in the air," he said.

"Without insurance the tanker owners will be reluctant to send their tankers to the Gulf...It looks like we arre heading for real trouble."

Shaykh Yamani, speaking in Geneva at a lunch given by the American International Club, said Iran's threat to close the strait had not been taken seriously "because it would be very difficult militarily and it would soon be reopened with the help of the major powers."

But possible action by Lloyds could bring about the loss of eight million barrels a day from the Gulf. Four million could be made up from producers such as Venezuela, Indonesia and Nigeria, and Saudi Arabia could increase its exports from the Red Sea by a little. "But there will be a shortage of around four million barrels."

He warned American and other Western diplomats that with a record low level of oil stocks in the West, "you are very vulnerable."

The oil minister hoped that the United States would follow up on its pledge to release its strategic oil reserves, and described the present situation in the Gulf as tense, serious and dangerous.

Shaykh Yamani said that demand for Oil was picking up faster than forecasters had expected. "Until yesterday everybody thought there could be a surplus forever.... The immediate future as of today and for the rest of this year is so ambiguous and so clouded few if any people can predict what will happen." He also indirectly urged countries presently buying Iranian oil to consider stopping the purchases, as a way of helping to bring the 44-month-old Gulf war to an end. "If Iranian oil is not purchased, and Iran, is not supplied with weapons, they may have second thoughts," he said of the Iranian regime in Tehran. Countries supplying Iran with arms were not assisting Western interests "but unfortunately they are considered to be strong allies of the West or in the Western camp," he said.

Shaykh Yamani also spoke of the difficulties faced by Iraq. It could not export oil from the Gulf, with the Iranians bombing tankers coming near Basra, and the Syrians had closed the pipeline for the Iraqis to the Mediterranean.

However, Iran could export as much oil as it wanted, "even over and above the OPEC quota."

The Saudi minister said the Iraqis were "really suffering" and were not getting enough aid from other Arab states.

Syrian Vice President Visits Jidda

LD261219 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 26 May 84

[Text] Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam arrived in Jidda this afternoon for a visit to the Kingdom. He was welcomed on arrival by His Royal Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-Aziz, second deputy prime minister and minister of defense, aviation, and inspector general; His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, the foreign minister; and by the Syrian ambassador to the kingdom, Muhammad at-Tall; and also by a number of officials.

Received by King

LD261448 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1430 GMT 26 May 84

[Text] Jidda, 26 May (SPA) — King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz today received Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, who was accompanied by Foreign Minister Faruq ash-Shar'. The meeting was attended by His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, crown prince, deputy premier, and commander of the National Guard; His Royal Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy premier, minister of defense and aviation, and inspector general; His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, foreign minister; and Syrian Ambassador to the Kingdom Muhammad at-Tall.

Khaddam Departs 26 May

LD261625 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1548 GMT 26 May 84

[Text] Jidda, 26 May (SPA) — Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam and his delegation left Jidda this evening. They were seen off at the airport by His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, the foreign minister; Major General Salih as-Sudays, commander of the Western Region; the representative of royal protocol; Muhammad At-Tall, Syrian ambassador to the Kingdom; and several other officials.

Cabinet Ministers Discuss Gulf Situation

LD282150 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2110 GMT 28 May 84

[Text] Jidda, 28 May (SPA) — His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz has chaired a meeting of the Council of Ministers held this evening, Monday, 28 May. Following the meeting, His Excellency Information Minister 'Ali ash-Sha'ir made a statement for SPA, radio, and television in which he said: His majesty spoke at the start of the meeting on the total sum of events in the Arab region, especially the issues of the hour in the Gulf. In this context, his majesty, may God preserve him, acquainted the Council of Ministers with the results of his talks this week with senior officials who visited the Kingdom from various Arab and foreign capitals. In addition, his majesty reported on what his envoys to several Arab and Islamic countries had achieved within the context of the consultations which the Government of Saudi Arabia is having with its brothers and friends concerning various matters of common interest.

His excellency added: His majesty also expressed to the Council his satisfaction at the results of the efforts made so far to contain the tense situation in the Gulf through the calm and wise policy pursued by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

His majesty showed great interest in the Lebanese situation during this meeting and expressed hopes that President Amin al-Jumayyil and his new government would be able to fulfill the aspirations of the Lebanese people who are looking forward to security and peace in the shadow of comprehensive Lebanese unity and lasting national reconciliation.

His excellency ended his statement by saying that the Council passed a number of topics on to its general committee for study before presenting them in the next session, which will be held in At-Tai'f, God willing.

UAE

President Receives Iranian President's Message

GF271046 Abu Dhabi Domestic Service in Arabic 0930 GMT 27 May 84

[Excerpt] UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan has received a verbal message from Iranian President 'Ali Khamane'i on bilateral relations and current developments in the region. The message was conveyed by Hoseyn Kazim, Iranian Foreign Ministry under secretary for economic affairs and international cooperation, during the president's meeting with him at Al-Maqam Palace in Al-'Ayn today.

Foreign Ministry Officials Advised of Gulf Stance

LD271819 Tehran IRNA in English 1540 GMT 27 May 84

[Text] Tehran, May 27, IRNA — Iran's deputy foreign minister in charge of economic and political affairs, Hoseyn Kazempur Ardabili, reminded in his meeting with the U.A.E. minister of state in charge of foreign affairs Saturday that no Persian Gulf state would be able to export oil from the Persian Gulf waterways if and when the Islamic Republic is deprived of the same right. He reminded the U.A.E. official that Saddam Husayn's provocative acts at the Persian Gulf would be to the detriment of all Persian Gulf states. The Iranian Foreign Ministry official and his accompanying delegation are to meet with the U.A.E. president Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan al-Nuhayyan here [as received] today. He is to present to the U.A.E. President a message from the Iranian President, 'Ali Khamene'i.

Iranian: No 'Guarantee' on Shipping

NC281414 Paris AFP in English 1350 GMT 28 May 84

[Text] Abu Dhabi, May 28 (AFP) — Iran is unable to provide "any guarantee" for the safety of foreign shipping in the Gulf, Deputy Foreign Minister Hoseyn Kazempur said here today. He made the statement after a meeting with United Arab Emirates (UAE) finance minister Shaykh Hamdan ibn Rashid al-Maktum.

Asked whether Iran had given the UAE assurances that it would not attack shipping in the Gulf, he said Iran could not even "guarantee the protection" of its own shipping in the area.

He stressed that Iran "has not announced that iot has attacked gil tankers in the Gulf".

Kazem said he had also told Mr. al-Maktum that Iran planned to increase economic cooperation with the Emirates.

Yesterday, he gave a message from Iranian President 'Ali Khamene'i to UAE president Shaeykh Zayid ibn Sultan al-Nuhayyan. Last week, Mr. Kazem handed a similar message from President Khamene'i to South Yemen President 'Ali Nasir Muhammad al-Hasani in Aden.

Reportage on People's Assembly Elections

Mubarak Makes TV Address

NC261811 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1705 GMT 26 May 84

[Text] Cairo, 26 May (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak has stressed that democracy cannot be achieved by itself, or come as gift from the ruler, or be a slogan that turns into a tangible reality with a magic wand. He said that democracy is a daily practice that depends primarily and before anything else on the participation of every citizen in the public arena. In an address he made on television today at 1900, President Mubarak called on all citizens to perform their national duty by casting their votes in the parliamentary elections to be held tomorrow, Sunday, particularly as all of the objective conditions have been provided to guarantee free elections and a free choice from among a number of programs and methods for the first time in more than half a century.

President Mubarak stressed in his address that for the citizen to vote for this or that party is not important. He said that this is a matter left for his conscience, conviction, and his appreciation of responsibility. However, what is important is that all of us should go tomorrow morning to the election committees and make certain that we cast the sound votes.

The following is the text of President Mubarak's address:

In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Brother citizens: I thought I would talk to you this evening without formalities or ceremonies because I am very interested that you share my thoughts and feelings at this time when Egypt is going through an historic and important stage. This stage will leave clear and deep imprints on the ways of life in Egypt and even in the entire region for years to come. I believe that of the points on which all of us agree is the need to work to strengthen the democratic practice and to consolidate it in Egyptian political reality, since it is the best way of guaranteeing a sound collective life in which every citizen can feel safe and protected, and in which he feels that his interests and sons are safe; and even more than that, where he can feel that he can enjoy his rights, defend his interests without fear, and where all, both rulers and ruled, live under the sovereignty of the law. This situation brings about justice and equality for all.

On the other hand, there is no doubt that democracy is the protective shield and safety valve that always protects society from disturbances and troubles and provides the element of stability for the individual and group. This then allows us to proceed quickly along the road of social and economic development.

We are in fact in dire need of achieving development in large measure because the future of all of us depends on it. But democracy, brother citizens, cannot be achieved by itself, or come as a gift from the ruler. It is not a slogan that turns into a tangible reality with a magic wand. It is a daily practice that depends primarily and before anything else on the participation of every citizen in the public arena and in his strong interest to perform his national duties. The first of these is the duty of casting his vote in the parliamentary elections, particularly as all of the objective conditions have been provided to guarantee free elections. The citizen has before him the opportunity to choose from among a number of different programs and methods for the first time in more than half a century.

For all of these reasons I urge citizens to perform their national duty by casting their votes in the parliamentary elections that will take place tomorrow, Sunday. The meaning behind any Egyptian who abstains from casting his vote, for whatever reason and excuse, is that he is willingly renouncing his right to participate in the government and to define the path we should take, and indeed, he will be derelict in his duty to establish citizens' control over the government's legislative and executive institutions. It is not important that a citizen vote for any particular party. This is a matter left to his conscience, conviction, and appreciation of responsibility. The important thing is that all of us go tomorrow morning to the elections committees, God willing, and make certain that we cast sound votes.

We have an enormous task ahead of us in the coming years to complete what we have started in the fields of development and economic reform, and in raising the standard of the services. As we have often said before, such a colossal task can only be accomplished through the vigorous participation of all citizens. Brothers, can any Egyptian withhold his efforts from his country? Is it acceptable that any Egyptian, male or female, should fail to respond to the call of his country? I doubt that any Egyptian will fail to do so. Instead, I have great expectations based on our noble people's vigilance and their sense of historical responsibility. I have complete confidence in the future and the vistas that it will open before us. I implore God Almighty to grant us success in the performance of this national duty and in serving our beloved Egypt. I seize this opportunity to congratulate the citizens and all Muslims in the Islamic nation on the approaching blessed month of Ramadan. May God bring us all good and happiness during that month. May God grant us success, and may God's peace, mercy, and blessings be upon you.

Prime Minister on Elections

JN252058 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1806 GMT 25 May 84

[Interview with Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din, prime minister and NDP secretary general, by Radio Monte Carlo news director Antoine Nawfal; carried within weekly prorgam "It Happened Tomorrow" — live]

[Text] [Antoine Nawfal] Mr Prime Minister, some political parties, especially the Wafd Party, have made accusations against Egyptian authorities and have questioned the honesty of the election campaign. Fu'ad Siraj ad-Din, leader of the Wafd Party, has spoken on this subject. What is your reply?

[Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din] These accusations point to the election results. The Wafd Party leader has preceded events by speculating that results will not be in his favor. It is as if he wants to prepare the public for [words indistinct]. He allowed a demonstration contrary to law. Following a meeting by his party that continued until dawn, some party members came out onto the streets and staged an illegal demonstration. No illegal measures were taken against him. He moved freely in the country. He held rallies in Al-Mansurah, Cairo, Alexandria, and elsewhere. His party also moved freely and submitted its lists freely. The party newspaper is published freely, and was never confiscated. The paper is writing freely on any subject and is making strong and severe criticisms without any interference.

[Nawfal] But as prime minister and NDP secretary general, and also as a prominent candidate, what do you expect from these elections? Do you expect a crushing victory? Do you want to crush the opposition, especially since the elections, which are based on lists, could eliminate entire parties?

[Muhyi ad-Din] I want a fair victory. I want the people's will to be clearly manifested. That is all. I do not want to crush the opposition. On the countrary, I want to see the opposition represented in the People's Assembly, so it will voice its opinion. The essence of democracy is hearing the other side's opinion. Democracy is not bogus representation [words indistinct].

Of course, I am doing my best as NDP secretary general and prime minister to win the public over through our services, achievements, and everything that we are providing to the citizens. If the public gives us all the votes [words indistinct], they are most welcome. And, if it gives some of the votes to the opposition so that it will be represented in the Assembly, that is also most welcome. We want an opposition that expresses its own opinion and assists us in the process of reconstruction, development, stability, and progress in Egypt.

[Nawfal] Which party do you consider to be your main rival?

[Muhyi ad-Din] I cannot tell that now, because this is the first time we have held such elections [words indistinct]. It is not the number of lists that decides the issue. The Wafd Party has [words indistinct] the Labor Party has lists in all constituencies, and the NPUG has more or less the same number of lists. The main thing is [word indistinct]. It is difficult to tell who will be the main rival [words indistinct].

[Nawfal] Do you believe the elections will change the course of Egyptian policy, regardless of the results?

[Muhyi ad-Din] There will be no radical change. However, in the domestic field [words indistinct] foreign policy [words indistinct], and relations with the outside world will remain firm. Development plans will remain firm [words indistinct]. We will hear the other side's opinion if it is represented in the Assembly. We will meet and tackle Egypt's problems together for the sake of a better Egypt.

[Nawfal] After the elections, and on points of procedure, what will happen? When will a new government be formed, and who do you expect to be the next prime minister?

[Muhyi ad-Din] The Egyptian Constitution provides that the incumbent prime minister need not resign if his party wins a majority vote. The prime minister's case is decided by the president of the republic. The prime minister only resigns when his party loses the majority vote.

[Nawfal] A final question: What percentage of votes do you expect for your party in the elections?

[Muhyi ad-Din][words indistinct] What I would like to say is that I am very optimistic. [words indistinct]

Al-Baz on Elections

JN251935 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic
1752 GMT 25 May 84

[Interview with Usamah al-Baz, presidential adviser, by Radio Monte Carlo news director Antoine Nawfal; carried within weekly "It Happened Tomorrow" program — recorded]

[Text] [Antoine Nawfal] Will the results of the elections affect Egypt's foreign policy, particularly with regard to Israel and the Camp David agreement?

[Usamah al-Baz] As far as relations with Israel are concerned, we see that some opposition parties talk about freezing relations or about the Camp David agreement and the documents that stemmed from this agreement. However, nobody is actually calling for canceling or abrogating the peace agreement. In fact, there are parties calling for a firmer stand against Israel. This is the nature of political life, and it is not confined to us. This is normal, because there is always a diversity of opinion in this regard. There are conservative and very extremist groups in Israel. There are Israeli groups that carry out terrorist acts. Therefore, we believe that the Egyptian people adhere to peace in order to preserve international commitments to Egypt. At the same time, there is a general insistence on supporting the Palestinian people until they achieve their national legitimate rights, the foremost of which is their right to self-determination.

People's Assembly Elections Start

NC270751 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0725 GMT 27 May 84

[Text] Cairo, 27 May (MENA) — At 0800 today the People's Assembly elections began in 48 electoral constituencies comprising 23,000 electoral committees across the republic. Voters went to the electoral committees from early this morning to elect 448 deputies from among 3,976 candidates representing five parties: the NDP, the New Al-Wafd Party, the Socialist Labor Party, the National Progressive Unionist Grouping Party, and the Socialist Liberal Party.

Prime Minister Casts Vote

NC271318 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1200 GMT 27 May 84

[Text] Shubra al-Khaymah, 27 May (MENA) — Prime Minister Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din today cast his vote in the parliamentary elections for the People's Assembly in Shubra al-Khaymah constituency, where he has been nominated. He was welcomed by the masses in the area with cheers for Egypt and for President Muhammad Husni Mubarak. Dr Muhyi ad-Din was accompanied by Mukhtar Hani, minister of state for People's Assembly and Consultative Council affairs, who, with the prime minister, is on the NDP's nomination list in southern Al-Qalyubiyah

Governorate's second constituency. After casting his vote, Dr Muhyi ad-Din made statements to journalists expressing his optimism about the voters' response to carrying out their electoral duties.

Replying to a question on the expected outcome of the elections, Dr Muhyi ad-Din said it is difficult to judge the positions of various parties, as this is the first time that five parties are participating in the elections. Although there are means for taking polls, such means are not available here. It is only after the actual results are out that the people's views can be determined.

Dr Muhyi ad-Din said: We are proceeding to a new phase with new blood, both in the popular or local councils and even in the NDP. Now that the previous generation has carried out its mission, a change is inevitable — it is a fact of life. Dr Muhyi ad-Din described the postelection phase as important. He said: We have great hopes for obtaining a majority. We will center on completing the 5-year plan projects without hesitation. We will continue to build Egypt. Democracy will be maintained at the highest level. We have introduced new blood in the elections by nominating 130 new candidates. He said: Everybody enjoyed practicing democracy. We heard the opposition parties over the radio and television. In general, the election campaign was smooth and good, in spite of the appearance of some minor disturbances which occur during any elections in the world. Dr Muhyi ad-Din added that criticism of the government and ideological differences between various party trends serve the public interest and the continuity of the democratic process.

Dr Muhyi ad-Din said he received no serious complaint worthy of comment regarding the elections. He added: Everyone is unanimous in that the elections are proceeding smoothly.

Regarding the negative aspects of the current electoral experiment, Dr Muhyi ad-Din said that the opposition raised very early an accusation of election rigging before voting had started and without waiting for results. This matter harms Egypt and its administration without any reason. He said that despite the presence of the emergency law, it was never used during the elections. The operation is proceeding smoothly and honestly. Concerning the opposition's demand that the judiciary should be represented in the electoral committees, Dr Muhyi ad-Din said that this is was impossible because the number of judges is not equal to the number of committees. He noted that the opposition parties had demanded a proportional election system, while they now oppose this.

Dr Muhyi ad-Din expressed astonishment at the attack against the government for offering services to the masses. The opposition has accused the government of offering a bribe to the voters, while the increase in agricultural crops, allowances, and bills aimed to improve the condition of employees and citizens are something natural that occurs each year, without waiting for elections. He denounced the opposition's way of distorting facts and the attempt to depict the picture as totally gloomy without noting any accomplishments. Regarding the possibility that the opposition would change its method after the elections, Dr Muhyi ad-Din said that it is natural for all the parties to reshuffle their cards in the light of the experiment and the outcome of the elections. Dr Muhyi ad-Din affirmed that there is an inclination toward a change in the NDP. He said this is a natural move which parties make after the elections, when they have taken note of their strengths and weaknesses. Regarding the possibility of reshuffling the government after the elections, he said: This is up to the party's leader.

Opposition Candidate Killed

LD271218 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1208 GMT 27 May 84

[Text] Cairo, 27 May (KUNA) — Sources of the Egyptian opposition confirmed here today the news that the candidate of the opposition Socialist Labor Party, Mrs Ni'mat Husayn Muhammad 'Ali, has been killed by the bullets of opponents in the southern city of Luxor. The Egyptian Ministry of Interior has no other details concerning the direction behind the assassination of the Socialist candidate. But the news here says that one of the candidates of the Democratic National Party in Luxor, 'Abd al-Mun'im Badran, had shot the candidate after a verbal argument near a polling center in the village of Taj at-Tawil.

NDP Candidate's Cousin Arrested

NC272200 Cairo MENA in English 2150 GMT 27 May 84

[Text] Luxor, Upper Egypt, May 27 (MENA) — The Qina Governorate District Attorney Salah Jirah released a statement today on the death of a woman candidate of the opposition Socialist Labour Party in a shoot out incident. Defendant Nasr ad-Din Badran, a farmer, has been arrested and the weapon used in the incident, a revolver of an unidentified type, has been seized, the statement said. Interrogation started and the public prosecution charged Badran with premeditated murder, it said. The defendant has been remanded in custody and the coroner has been called in to determine the causes of death, it pointed out. According to the statement, it was found out that the victim was hit with two bullets, one in the chest and the other in the arm, which killed her at once. The victim, the statement notes, was driving from the city of Luxor to the polling booth at Al-Karnak Village, 6 km from Luxor, when the defendant, who was also driving in another car, fired two shots at her. Investigation, the statement concluded, showed that the defendant is a cousin of 'Abd al-Mun'im Badran, candidate of the ruling NDP in the same constituency.

Mubarak Casts Vote

NC271455 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 27 May 84

[Text] President Muhammad Husni Mubarak and Mrs Mubarak cast their votes for the People's Assembly elections at the Heliopolis Girls School committee in Heliopolis. Answering questions from correspondents of world news agencies, press, radio, and television, President Mubarak said that these elections are regarded as a turning point in Egypt's history because for the first time in 60 years Egypt witnesses such free elections without any interference. The president said that after the election results are made known the representatives of the People's Assembly will represent the whole population and they will have to work solidly for the interest and welfare of the Egyptian people. Answering a question as to whether he would change his policy after the elections, the president asked: What sort of change do you mean? The correspondent said: Whether the president will continue to support the Camp David Accords.

The president said: Camp David is a commitment approved by the People's Assembly. We are for peace. We will work for peace and for a comprehensive peace so that we can arrive at a comprehensive settlement of the whole Middle East problem. Asked about the Iraqi-Iranian war as it is now, the president said that he hoped that the war would end and that the two sides would resort to negotiations to reach a solution for this complex problem. About current Egyptian mediation efforts to end the war, the president said: We have an initiative. Asked whether he would reshuffle the government after the elections, the president said: Such a matter cannot be suggested to us and it is subject to the situation. Concluding his statements, the president said: For these elections there has been propaganda, something which has not occurred for 60 years.

NPUG Spokesman on Violations

LD271337 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1225 GMT 27 May 84

[Shamil Khayri report]

[Text] Cairo, 27 May (KUNA) — A spokesman for the National Progressive Unionist Party announced that many violations have been committed in the elections which began at 0800 today, includingpreventing party representatives from entering a number of election centers. About 2,185 polling cards were missing in one constituency. The party's assistant secretary general, Dr Rif'at as-Sa'id, told KUNA here today that a number of party representatives to various constituencies in Egypt were stopped from entering election centers by force.

According to the current election law, each party who has submitted a list of candidates to the constituency has the right to send two members from the electorate, and the parties' representatives are considered to be principal members of the election committee which monitors the elections and ensures their neutrality.

Dr as-Sa'id said that representatives of the National Progressive Unionist Party were stopped from entering six election committees in villages of the Daqahliyah Governorate and that the police absolutely refused to interfere in the matter.

We remind you that the security forces are absolutely prohibited from interfering in the elections in any manner. Dr as-Sa'id mentioned that the polling boxes in the constituency of eastern Qaliubiyah are open and cannot be sealed. He added that in three election centers, in an area called Shyakhah al-Hada'iq, the polling cards arrived 185 cards short of the supposed number. Dr as-Sa'id claimed that the missing cards will be secretly prepared in favor of the ruling National Party. He mentioned that the party's operation room said that some of the (?polling) boxes in this district announced the end of the polling at 0945 today while the party representatives were absent. He said that in the Governorate of Fayyum, the justice and judge did not arrive, that is, the judiciary authority was absent. Therefore, the ruling National Party has five representatives on Committee No 47 and three representatives for the same party on Committee No 30.

He added that in Fayyum there are four other election committees with no screens. This means that the electorates express their opinions in public. It is worth noting that the agriculture minister, Dr Yusuf Wali, is the head of the National Party's list in this governorate. Sources of the National Progressive Unionist Party reported the occurrence of an assault against the party's candidate in the Governorate of Marsa Matruh and against the party's deputy in Shibin al-Kum. They also reported that the chairman of the committee in the governorate of Giza withdrew after an argument with the ruling party's officials and the reserve judge assumed the chairmanship of the committee.

Violence, Protests Reported

NC271445 Paris AFP in English 1400 GMT 27 May 84

[Text] Cairo, May 27 (AFP) — One opposition candidate was killed and the wife of another seriously wounded today as violence erupted during voting in Egypt's first general election since the 1981 assassination of President Anwar as-Sadat, the Interior Ministry said here. The first reported victim in voting violence was Labor Party candidate Ni'mat Muhammad Hasan, who was assassinated early today outside the election commission office in Luxor, Ministry spokesman Baha' ad-Din Ibrahim said.

The wife of National Progressive Unionist Grouping (NPUG) candidate Ahmad 'Abd al-Halim Barakat was later shot and seriously wounded in the legislative district of Shibin al-Qanatir, located 30 kilometers (18 miles) north of here, he said. General Ibrahim did not give further details pending results of an investigation into the incidents. An NPUG spokesman said that militants of the Marxist-Nasirite Party in the same district had been attacked by toughs employed by the ruling National Democratic Party (NDP) and that village polling stations in the region had been closed.

Twenty NPUG delegates were seriously injured in the attacks, the spokesman said, adding that NPUG delegates in other districts around the capital had also been attacked. About 13 million people were expected to vote in today's balloting for 448 seats in the People's Assembly, Egypt's parliament.

In the Nile delta district of Dikirnis, where Tourism Minister Tawfiq 'Abduh Isma'il is running under the NDP banner, farmers reportedly occupied polling stations and burned ballot boxes in protest against the alleged expulsion of opposition representatives from the stations by NDP members.

Other parties running in today's election were the New Wafd Party, the Labor Party and the Liberal Party. Results are not expected before Wednesday. Elections are held every five years. But the number of parties involved and the tone of the campaign, in which the Wafd Party has resurfaced from relative obscurity, has reflected President Husni Mubarak's effort to restore relative democracy to Egypt, after years of firm rule under Mr as-Sadat and Jamal 'Abd an-Nasir.

KUNA Reports Election Irregularities

LD271552 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1437 GMT 27 May 84

[Text] Cairo, 27 May (KUNA) — Sources in the Al-Wafd Party told KUNA here today that persons unknown have burned a number of ballot boxes in the second constituency of southern Qalyubiyah Governorate, where the ruling National Party candidate list is headed by the prime minister, Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din. At the same time he mentioned that 12 persons were stabbed and transported to neighboring hospitals after a fight between supporters of the National Party and members of the Unionist Party in Shibin al-Qanatir. All the wounded are from the Unionist Party.

Al-Wafd Party sources said that in Qalyubiyah villages such as (Qalj) and (Huduf), in which the majority supports Al-Wafd, ballot boxes were burned and the election committee chairman is thinking of disqualifying these boxes. The sources said that in the second constituency of southern Qalyubiyah an unknown group has sealed the ballot boxes since 0900.

The sources added that all the representatives of the parties to the committees near the center of Al-Khankah in Qalyubiyah Governorate were kicked out. In the constituency of Giza, in which Major General Hasan Abu Basha, the minister of interior, heads the candidates list of the National Party, Al-Wafd representatives were ousted from the committees. The constituency was considered closed, that is all the electors have voted.

MENA Notes Election 'Excesses'

NC271703 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1620 GMT 27 May 84

[Excerpts] Cairo, 27 May (MENA) — At 1700 today Cairo time the voting ended in the elections to the People's Assembly which encompassed 48 electoral constituencies throughout the republic, and which were held for the first time in accordance with the system of proportional lists. A large number of people took part in the voting process which took place in a relatively calm atmosphere in most of the electoral committees, which number about 23,000 committees.

Regarding some excesses which have taken place in some of the electoral committees and which have resulted in obstructing the voting, it has been decided — according to the provisions of the law — that the counselor chairmen of the main committees are to deal with these excesses. In these elections five parties competed for 448 seats in the People's Assembly from 3,976 candidates introduced by the five parties in their lists. The initial voting results of each constituency are expected to be announced in the early hours of tomorrow, Monday. Interior Minister Major General Hasan Abu Basha is expected to announce the final result of the first parliamentary elections held in President Muhammad Husni Mubarak's era at a news conference this coming Tuesday or Wednesday.

NDP Official Denies 'Excesses'

NC271949 Cairo MENA in English 1900 GMT 27 May 84

[Excerpt] Cairo, May 27 (MENA) — The process of casting ballots in Cairo's five constituencies has been made under full neutrality and freedom, said 'Alawi Amin Khalil, head of the operations room of the ruling National Democratic Party (NDP). Polling stations in Cairo, he said, witnessed today an unprecedented turnout of 50 to 60 per cent in most of the constituencies. He said no repeat no excesses have been made either on the part of candidates or voters, particularly as the security departments have maintained full neutrality all through from beginning to end of the voting process.

'Vote Rigging' Alleged

NC290839 Paris AFP in English 0814 GMT 29 May 84

[Text] Cairo, May 29 (AFP) — Opposition leader Fu'ad Siraj ad-Din today charged there was vote rigging in Egypt's general elections, in which his opposition New Al-Wafd Party was overwhelmingly defeated by the ruling National Democratic Party, according to official results. Mr Siraj ad-Din, 75, said he had "proof" of the rigging and would produce this at a forthcoming press conference. He said that without fraud, his party would have won 70 percent of the 448 seats in the People's Assembly. Mr Siraj ad-Din said: "What has been hailed as Egypt's democratic experience has failed." The elections, marked by violence and the murder of a woman opposition candidate, would have "a disastrous effect on the people," he said. He added: "We will use all legal means to defend and uphold our rights," hinting that the New Al-Wafd would seek to have the results in some constituencies annulled. But he said the New Al-Wafd Party did not intend to stage a parliamentary boycott in protest at the "fraud." Egypt has a system of proportional representation. But only the NDP and the New Al-Wafd appeared likely to exceed the threshold of eight percent of votes needed to sit in the Assembly.

Final Results 29 May

NC281429 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1400 GMT 28 May 84

[Text] Cairo, 28 May (MENA) — Interior Minister Hasan Abu Basha will announce Tuesday at an international news conference the final results of the People's Assembly elections which were held yesterday. The interior minister will announce at a news conference the proportional votes which each party obtained at the republic level, the number of parliamentary seats for each party, and the names of winning candidates in these elections. The tripartite central committee at the Interior Ministry, which was formed to draw up the final results of the elections, is now receiving the results of votes that have been sorted from various electoral constituencies and is feeding these results to the computer gradually.

Armed Forces General Command Issues Communiques

No 1,476 - 25 May

JN251654 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1604 GMT 25 May 84

[Communique No 1,476 issued by Armed Forces General Command on 25 May 1984]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. While confronting the aggressor Iranians in defense of rights, honor, and sovereignty, our valiant Armed Forces continue their activities on land, at sea, and in the air with high morale and ability. The results for yesterday evening and today are as follows:

1. This morning several enemy naval targets were discovered in the Khowr-e Musa area, in the northeastern area of the Arab Gulf. Our brave naval force and its daring aircraft confronted them, surprised them, and dealt them violent, destructive blows. Six naval targets were hit and destroyed. Our forward observation posts heard the sound of the explosions, and saw the rising flames. In their attempt to flee, two of the remaining enemy naval targets entered a minefield and were destroyed. Thus, eight naval targets were destroyed today. All of our naval units and daring aircraft returned safely and triumphantly to base, praise be to God.

2. One of valiant forward units raided enemy positions opposite its positions in the operations sector east of Basra. Our unit used all types of weapons to pound the enemy positions, killing or wounding many and destroying four infantry positions and three weapons emplacements. In other areas in the same sector, one enemy element was killed, two vehicles and four infantry positions were destroyed, and one fuel reservoir was set on fire.

3. A force belonging to one of our forward units raided several enemy positions in the Maysan sector, destroying four infantry positions, one heavy caliber machine gun, and one medium caliber machine gun. One enemy soldier was killed and one observation post was destroyed in another area in the same sector.

4. One was killed, many were wounded, and one vehicle was destroyed in the northern sector of the battlefield.

5. New groups of Iranian soldiers, escaping the Khomeyniite regime's inferno and terrorism, sought refuge with our forward units in the central sector of the battlefield. Other groups of Iranian soldiers also sought refuge with our forward units in the northern sector of the battlefield. The Iranian soldiers were safely evacuated to rear lines.

6. The clique of evil and crime ruling in Iran today shelled Basra, Khanaqin, Mandali, and their suburbs with heavy artillery. As a result of the barbaric enemy shelling, two civilians were martyred and four children were wounded in Basra; two civilians were wounded, two houses were destroyed, and five buildings belonging to city's hospital were damaged in Khanaqin; and one orchard was set on fire in Mandali.

[Signed) The Armed Forces General Command, 25 May 1984

No 1,477 - 26 May

JN261618 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 26 May 84

[Communique No 1,477 issued by Armed Forces General Command on 26 May 1984]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our brave Armed Forces are continuing their triumphant operations at the front against the spiteful, suspect Iranian regime's forces. The results for last night and today are as follows:

1. Using artillery and other types of weapons, our forward units pounded enemy positions and troop concentrations east of Basra, inflicting a number of casualties and destroying two vehicles, five infantry positions, and one weapons emplacement. Our forces set a number of other enemy infantry position on fire.

2. One of our forward units pounded both an enemy vehicle carrying personnel and a number of positions in the Maysan sector. Five enemy men were killed; the vehicle, three infantry positions, and two machine guns were destroyed.

3. In the northern sector of the front, our forces destroyed two vehicles, one of which was equipped with a 106-mm gun. They also destroyed two infantry positions.

4. Three were killed and one infantry position was destroyed in the central sector of the front.

5. One infantry position was destroyed in the sector east of Tigris.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 26 May 1984

No 1,478 - 27 May

JN271614 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 27 May 84

[Communique No 1,478 issued by Armed Forces General Command on 27 May 1984]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our brave Armed Forces continued their successful activities in the operational sectors against the forces of the clique of evil and expansion that is ruling in Iran. The results for yesterday evening and today are as follows:

1. One of our forward untis fired on the enemy positions and troop concentrations opposite our positions in the operational area east of Basra, killing or wounding several troops and destroying three infantry and weapon emplacements.

2. In a successful operation yesterday morning, one of our brave patrols captured four enemy troops in the northern sector of the battlefield. They were evacuated to the rear.

3. One hardware stockpile was destroyed in the central sector of the battlefield.

4. Last night and today, the vile Iranian regime shelled Basra and Khurmal and their environs with heavy artillery, damaging some civilian establishments.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 27 May 1984

No 1,479 - 28 May

JN281555 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1530 GMT 28 May 84

[Text] Baghdad, 28 May (INA) — The Iraqi Armed Forces have killed seven Iranians and destroyed three weapons and infantry positions in the operational area east of Basra.

Communique No 1,479, issued by the Armed Forces General Command here this evening, added that the Iraqi patrols in the Maysan sector forced the Iranian forward untis to flee after killing one of their troops. The following is the text of the communique:

Communique No 1,479 issued by the Armed Forces General Command:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our brave Armed Forces are continuing their activities in the operational sectors agaisnt the forces of the rancorous Khomeyniite enemy. The results for yesterday evening and today are as follows:

1. One of our forward units fired on a group of enemy troops opposite our positions east of Basra, killing seven. Elsewhere in the same sector, several enemy troops were killed and one excavator, one observation post, and three weapons and infantry positions were destroyed.

2. One of our combat patrols fired on a group of enemy troops opposite one of our forward units' positions in the Maysan sector and forced them to flee. Elsewhere in the same sector, one of the enemy was killed.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 28 May 1984

Foreign Ministry Statement on Gulf Crisis

JN261913 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1825 GMT 26 May 84

[Text] Baghdad, 26 May (INA) — Iraq has stressed that the recent developments in the Arab Gulf region were not caused by any new Iraqi moves but by the unjustified, flagrant Iranian aggression on the Kuwaiti and Saudi ships that were far from the area of military operations.

In a statement issued tonight on the occasion of the UN Security Council meeting to discuss the GCC states' complaint against Iran, the Iraqi Foreign Ministry said that the Iranian aggression against certain Gulf states which are not participating in the armed hostilities is a new threat to international peace and security, because it has expanded the area of the conflict. The statement, which is in reply to a statement issued by the Iranian regime's Foreign Ministry yesterday, said that any attempt by any side to connect the new Iranian aggressions with the Iraqi measures that are based on Iraq's right of self-defense are obvious attempts to justify the Iranian aggression on states that are not party to the conflict.

The statement said that these attempts are meant to prolong the war and to encourage its expansion. They also constitute a flagrant bias in favor of the Iranian aggressors. The statement added that Iraq had previously declared a prohibited zone in the northeastern area of the Arab Gulf.

Iraq warned ships not to approach it. The shipowners and navigators are perfectly aware that ignoring such a warning would expose their ships in this area to danger.

The statement held the Iranian side responsible for the consequences of random strikes at ships in the neutral waters or territorial waters far from the operational area or at ships that are neither approaching nor coming out of the Iraqi ports.

The statement emphasized that Iraq will not deal with any decision by any quarter that does not consider its legitimate, inalienable rights to freedom of navigation and full use of its ports and waterways without any direct or indirect threat from the air, sea, or land.

The Foreign Ministry statement pointed out that Iraq is striking ships that enter and leave Iranian ports in reply to Iran's action in forcibly depriving Iraq of the freedom of navigation in its own ports and territorial waters.

The statement said that Iran insists on continuing its aggressive war against Iraq, and refuses to comply with the decision of the UN Security Council and all international organizations that calls for ending the war and settling the dispute peacefully. Iraq's action is a response in kind that stems from the right of self-defense.

The statement added that Iraq has acted with full responsibility in order to maintain the security and stability of the Arab Gulf region, to prevent the expansion of the ongoing armed conflict between it and Iran, and to ensure freedom of navigation in the Arab Gulf.

Referring to the 22 February Iranian offensive on Iraqi territory, the statement said that the objective of that offensive was to occupy the Basra region and completely deprive Iraq of its status as a littoral Arab Gulf state that has the right to exercise the freedom of trade and navigation in the Gulf, just as the other littoral states.

The statement affirmed that the Iraqi siege on Iranian ports and the intensification of this siege has come as a protective, defensive measure.

The statement warned that Iraq will strongly oppose both any attempt to ignore these main facts of the situation and any attempt to confuse the blatant Iranian aggression against Kuwait and Saudi Arabia with Iraq's legitimate action.

ATH-THAWRAH on Gulf War, Government Stands

JN290737 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0525 GMT 29 May 84

[Text] Baghdad, 29 May (INA) — The *ATH-THAWRAH* newspaper has assailed what it called certain parties, including the Syrian regime, for their attempts to equate Iraq's policy of legitimate defense with Iran's policy of aggression. In its editorial today, the newspaper described these attempts as opportunistic and meant to prolong the war and aggression. *ATH-THAWRAH* said these attempts are aimed at justifying Iran's aggression against tankers and ships belonging to states that are neither at war with Iran nor party to the 4-year-old Iraqi-Iranian war. It said that those who try to equate Iran's actions to expand the area of the war with Iraq's actions in defending its rights, sovereignty, and security are equating right with wrong and directly encouraging the aggressors to continue their aggression, thus siding with them in word and deed.

ATH-THAWRAH pointed out that the only effective solution, which will ensure security and stability in the region, is an honorable, just peace; serious, bold efforts to end the war; condemning the actions of the intransigent side that insists on continuing the war; and supporting the side that calls for peace and an end to the war.

The paper affirmed Iraq's insistence on continuing the blockade on Khark Island and striking the hostile maritime targets that enter the area of military ooperations. The paper said: The time when we will possess the weapons that are capable of destroying Khark Island itself is very close; and then the situation will be different.

Concluding its comment, *ATH-THAWRAH* stressed that Iraq will not hesitate in dealing the enemies grave blows and stepping up deterrent actions against them. It said: The Iranian regime alone will be bear the consequences of its unjust aggression against Iraq and the Arab nation.

INA President Interviewed on Iraq-Iran War

OW281415 Tokyo NHK Television Network in Japanese 1214 GMT 28 May 84

[Interview with Taha Yasin Hasan Al-Basri, president of the IRAQI NEWS AGENCY, conducted by NHK reporter Yanagisawa of the foreign news department; questions in Japanese, answers in English — recorded; date of interview not given]

[Text] Al-Basri, president of the state-run INA, is currently visiting Japan. He is not just a head of a company but a spokesman for the government. Our reporter Yanagisawa of the foreign news department interviewed him on the outlook of the Iran-Iraq war:

[Yanagisawa] Mr al-Basri, the Iran-Iraqi war is in a very critical stage, with both sides stepping up attacks on shipping in the Persian Gulf. Do you think the situation will get worse?

[Al-Basri] Iraq, as far as I believe, is practicing a legal right. Being in a state of war with Iran, any target inside Iranian territory, whether on water or airspace or inland, is a target to be stricken. While the Iranians are not striking ships in the territorial waters of Iraq, they are striking ships in the international water course. This is why they are escalating the situation. Hence, it is very important that we should differentiate between the two attitudes.

[Yanagisawa] In the opinion of many Japanese, it is Iraq that is stepping up attacks and keying up tension. What is your comment on this?

[Al-Basri] As far as I know, no ship at all has ever been hit by Iraq while it was outside the Iranian waters. So, when we hit ships inside the Iranian waters, we are defending ourselves because they have fought us on every aspect.

They have cut the flow of oil from the Arabian Gulf, so we have the right to cut their own flow of oil from the same region, and this is why it is not correct to say that Iraq has begun to practice its right inside the Iranian waters and it has never hit a ship in the international waters at all.

[Yanagisawa] Will the situation get worse?

[Al-Basri] I have heard in today's newspapers that Mr Nakasone is going to have a joint appeal in the summit of London that is to take place next month. So, as you see, there is a kind of international trend for settling the conflict in peaceful manners and direct negotiations. So, if the other side comes to this point, I think the conflict can be settled. Otherwise no one can predict what will the coming phase or the coming step be.

[Yanagisawa] Recently, Kuwaiti and Saudi tankers came under an Iranian missile attack, which was apparently a retaliatory act. While Iran is stepping up attacks on shipping and Iraq is retaliating against it, is Iraq not drawing Saudi Arabia and Kuwait, its major allies, into this war?

[Al-Basri] Well, I think every Arab country should be in support of Iraq because all Arab countries are considered as one nation. So it is very normal if Saudi Arabia or Kuwait assist; it is not a strange case. But whether they are going to be involved directly into the conflict or not, this is a matter that is related to Saudi Arabia and Kuwait themselves.

I am not in a position to analyze what action they will take because it is a matter of their own, well, policy; it is up to the policy makers in the two countries.

[Yanagisawa] Do you think there will be U.S. military intervention? If there is one, under what condition and in what form will the United States intervene?

[Al-Basri] If you ask me, do I like to have an American military intervention or not, for sure, I will say no. But I cannot answer if there would be a military action taken by the United States; it is up to the United States itself.

But I feel that the countries of the area are capable of safeguarding their area, defending themselves without any foreign intervention. So we do hope that no foreign intervention should occur in the area because that would complicate the situation rather than easing it.

[Yanagisawa] Thank you very much.

[Al-Basri] Thank you.

Foreign Ministry Briefs UNSC Members' Envoys

JN271254 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1225 GMT 27 May 84

[Text] Baghdad, 27 May (INA) — The Iraqi Foreign Ministry this morning summoned the heads of the diplomatic missions of the UN Security Council permanent members in Baghdad.

The heads of the diplomatic missions were informed about Iraq's stand on the GCC countries' complaint against the unjustified Iranian attacks against Kuwaiti and Saudi oil tankers in light of the statement the Foreign Ministry issued in this respect.

The Foreign Ministry spokesman explained to the heads of the diplomatic missions that they must not confuse the blatant Iranian aggression and the haphazard Iranian attacks against the vessels of two Arab Gulf countries, which are not parties to the armed dispute in territorial and neutral waters that are far from the areas of operations, with Iraq's legitimate right to continue defending itself and replying to the Iranian aggression. The spokesman said that Iran will be fully responsible for the results stemming for the continuation of this war.

Iran Accused of Killing 50 POW's on 15 May

JN260655 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0637 GMT 26 May 84

[Text] United Nations, 26 May (INA) — In a message to the UN secretary general, Iraq's permanent UN representative Riyad al-Qaysi said that on the 15th of this month the Iranian authorities executed 50 of the Iraqi Army's personnel who were captured in the sector east of Basra. The message pointed out the ugliness of the crime which was perpetrated by the Iranian regime and appealed to the international community to condemn such acts.

Dr al-Qaysi called on the United Nations to adopt all effective measures in order to put an end to the crimes the Tehran regime is committing against the Iraqi prisoners of war and to force Iran to respect international charters. The message has been circulated as one of the UN Security Council's documents.

President Chairs 5-Hour Cabinet Meeting

JN261046 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1030 GMT 26 May 84

[Text] Baghdad, 26 May (INA) — President Saddam Husayn chaired a Cabinet meeting here today. During the meeting, which lasted 5 hours, the topics listed on the Cabinet's agenda were discussed and the necessary decisions regarding them were adopted.

The meeting was attended by RCC Vice Chairman 'Izzat Ibrahim, First Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yasin Ramadan, Vice President Taha Muhyi ad-Din Ma'ruf, the RCC members, the Ba'th Party Regional Command members, the director of the presidential office, the ministers, and several state officials.

INA: Japan Contacting Non-Iranian Oil Producers

JN261016 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0920 GMT 26 May 84

[Text] Vienna, 26 May (INA) — The Japanese oil companies are currently contacting several oil-producing countries, including Mexico, to ensure their oil needs after the suspension of loading oil from the Iranian Khark Island as a result of the Iraqi military siege.

Sources close to OPEC told the INA correspondent here today that Japan's search for other oil producers is a serious blow to the Iranian economy because Japan is the largest importer of Iranian oil.

These sources indicated that Japan's restraining from buying the Iranian oil is also due to the hike in insurance rates. These rates have more than doubled for the large tankers heading to the Iranian ports, that is from $2 million to over $4 million at present.

The sources added that the large discounts Iran offered regarding the prices of its oil and the great payment facilities it made did not encourage the Japanese companies and other importers of Iranian oil to risk loading oil from the besieged Iranian ports.

British Tankers Advised To Avoid Prohibited Zone

JN271142 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1130 GMT 27 May 84

[Excerpt] London, 27 May (INA) — Well-informed sources in the British oil tankers' market today said that British oil companies have asked their tankers which are near the Iranian ports to leave for the nearest port outside the prohibited zone previously defined by Iraq in its military communiques.

In a statement to INA today, these sources added that instructions were given to the British oil tankers and vessels not to leave for Khark Island ports and the Iranian port of Bushehr.

Lloyd's Doubles Gulf Vessels' Insurance Rates

JN251752 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1720 GMT 25 May 84

[Text] London, 25 May (INA) — The British Lloyd's company today decided to double the insurance rates for oil tankers and vessels going to Iran's Khark Island and Bushehr port. A responsible Lloyd's source said this evening that the insurance rates are now 7.5 percent — previously they were 3 percent — of the value of the tanker or vessel going to the two ports.

It is worth noting that this increase is the third that Lloyd's has affected in less than 1 month on the insurance rates for the tankers and vessels going to the Iranian ports. The source affirmed that Lloyd's was obliged to make this increase because of the Iraqi planes' success in bombing the tankers and ships heading for Iran's Khark Island and Bushehr ports. These ports are located within the military operations area which has been previously defined in Iraqi statements.

Finance Minister Returns From OPEC Meetings

JN250916 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0615 GMT 25 May 84

[Text] Baghdad, 25 May (INA) — Finance Minister Hisham Hasan Tawfiq returned here today after heading the Iraqi delegation to the meetings of the OPEC Ministerial Council for International Development which were concluded in Vienna recently.

In a statement to INA, the minister said that Iraq achieved a big political and information gain in these meetings through the support of the member-countries for Iraq's proposal to keep the Indonesian representative as chairman of the current session and to prevent the Iranian representative from assuming the chairmanship.

The finance minister noted that the council discussed the OPEC fund resources and its future operations as well as the increase of the sources of the international fund for agricultural development.

Reportage on 'Arafat's Visit to Amman

Arrives 26 May

JN261624 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 26 May 84

[Text] Amman — Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, arrived in Amman this afternoon on a brief visit to Jordan during which he will meet with His Majesty King Husayn and senior officials. He was met at Amman Civil Airport by Tahir al-Masri, minister of foreign affairs; Shawkat Mahmud, minister of occupied territory affairs; and Tariq Madi, chief of protocol at the Foreign Ministry. He was also met by Khalil al-Wazir [Abu Jihad], deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces; 'Abd ar-Rahim Ahmad, member of the PLO Executive Committee; Brigadier General 'Abd ar-Razzaq al-Yahya, representative of the PLO Executive Committee in Amman; and a number of PLO officials. Immediately upon his arrival, 'Arafat proceeded to the Technical Bureau, where he presided over part of the meeting of the Palestine National Fund. The fund began its work in Amman this morning.

Makes Arrival Statement

JN261837 Amman Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 26 May 84

[Excerpt] In a statement to JNA on arriving in Amman this afternoon, Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, said: Following my meetings with His Majesty King Husayn, I presented the Jordanian-Palestinian viewpoint and our common opinion during my visits to Beijing, Bangladesh, and Greece on the necessity to convene an international conference under the UN flag to be attended by all parties concerned, including the permanent member states of the UN Security Council. 'Arafat added: After that, I held intensive contacts to this end with several Arab and international sides in order to convene this conference. 'Arafat said that he will discuss this subject in detail with His Majesty King Husayn.

Further Comments

JN262104 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 26 May 84

[Excerpts] Amman — Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, arrived in Amman this afternoon on a brief visit to Jordan during which he will meet with His Majesty King Husayn and senior officials.

Asked by a PETRA-JNA correspondent about efforts to convene an international conference in order to solve the dispute in the Middle East, Yasir 'Arafat said: Following my last visit to Jordan at the beginning of May during which I met with His Majesty King Husayn, I visited Beijing, Bangladesh, and Greece. The issue of the international conference was one of the main topics of discussion with officials in those countries. I held talks with the PRC leaders on the Middle East and the Palestine question, and briefed them on the Palestinian-Jordanian viewpoint and our common view on the need to convene an international conference under the UN flag with the participation of all concerned parties, including all of the permanent member states of the UN Security Council. He added: The PRC leaders agreed with this proposal. 'Arafat added: After that, I held intensive contacts to this end with several Arab and international sides in order to convene this conference. He also pointed out that he would discuss this subject in detail with His Majesty King Husayn.

Regarding his Gulf tour, he said: This morning, I met with representatives of the Islamic Good Offices Committee in order to end the Iraqi-Iranian war. It was agreed to hold a meeting in Jidda at the beginning of Ramadan to be attended by the heads of the states that participate in this committee.

Asked about relations between the PLO and Syria, 'Arafat said: The PLO is seeking to remove differences with Syria. He said that the PLO has accepted all mediation efforts aimed at removing these differences.

Regarding relations with Egypt, he said: The PNC resolutions call for improving relations with Egypt in accordance with Egypt's effort to keep away from Camp David. He also expressed his belief that relations with Egypt are improving.

Asked about the Palestinian resistance groups' meetings in Algiers, 'Arafat said: The talks achieved some progress, and a working paper was adopted. He added that discussion of the working paper would be completed during the forthcoming meetings in Aden.

PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat presided over a meeting of the Palestinian National Fund Council at the PLO Executive Committee headquarters in Amman this evening in the presence of a number of the council members. 'Arafat was briefed by Dr Hanna Nasir, chairman of the Palestine National Fund, on the PLO's financial situation.

During the meeting, 'Arafat presented a report on the results of contacts he held with a number of Arab leaders concerning the fund's financial situation in light of the PLO's increasing financial obligations. These obligations are a result of its responsibilities toward citizens in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip in light of Israeli actions aimed at expelling the citizens and seizing their land. The Palestine National Fund began its meetings this morning. It is scheduled to end these meetings tomorrow.

Received by King Husayn

JN262034 Amman Television Service in English 2000 GMT 26 May 84

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn received this evening at An-Nadwah Palace PLO Chairman Mr Yasir 'Arafat. The two sides held a round of talks followed by a working dinner. The meeting was attended on the Jordanian side by the prime minister, the chief of the royal court, the court minister, the deputy premier, the minister of interior, and the minister of the occupied land affairs. On the PLO side, the meeting was attended by the deputy commander of the PLO forces, Mr Khalil al-Wazir, as well as a number of PLO officials. The meeting is still in progress.

Leaves for Algiers

JN270732 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 27 May 84

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn received PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat at An-Nadwah Palace yesterday evening. The Jordanian and Palestinian sides held a 3-hour meeting which was interrupted by a working dinner.

During the meeting, the two sides reviewed all aspects of the developments in the Palestinian arena, discussed the situation in the occupied Arab territories, and affirmed continued support for the steadfastness of the kinfolk on their national soil.

They also discussed inter-Arab relations and stressed the need for convening an Arab summit to avert the dangers threatening the Arab region. The two sides discussed the grave and tense situation in the Arab Gulf region as a result of continuing Iranian aggression against fraternal Iraq and Arab oil tankers. They stressed the need for intensifying joint efforts to avert the dangers in that region.

The meeting was attended on the Jordanian side by Prime Minister Ahmad 'Ubyadat; Royal Court Chief Marwan al-Qasim; Court Minister 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah; Sulayman 'Arar, deputy prime minister and interior minister; Shawkat Mahmud, minister of occupied land affairs; Tahir al-Masri, foreign minister; and Dr Raja'i ad-Dajani, secretary of the Royal Court.

On the Palestinian side, the meeting was attended by Khalil al-Wazir, alias Abu Jihad, deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces; 'Abd ar-Rahim Ahmad, member of the PLO Executive Committee; and Brigadier 'Abd ar-Razzaq al-Yahya, PLO Executive Committee representative in Amman. Yasir 'Arafat left Amman for Algiers early this morning. He was seen off at Amman airport by Sulayman 'Arar, deputy prime minister and interior minister; Shawkat Mahmud, minister of occupied land affairs; and Tariq Madi, the chief of protocol at the Foreign Ministry. He was also seen off by Khalil al-Wazir, deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces; 'Abd ar-Rahim Ahmad, member of the Executive Committee; Brig 'Abd ar-Razzaq al-Yahya, the representative of the PLO Executive Committee in Amman; Brig Nihad Nusaybah, Yasir 'Arafat's military adviser; Colonel Samir al-Khatib, director general of the military department; 'Ala' ad-Din Husni, the PLO charge d'affaires in Amman; and several PLO Military and civilian officials.

Chamber To Meet 31 May for Confidence Vote

NC281059 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1036 GMT 28 May 84

[Text] We have now received an official report that the Chamber of Deputies speaker has scheduled the vote of confidence session for 31 May at 1100. He said that there are certain security problems and that he has asked the Chamber of Deputies general secretary to hold a meeting with the Security Committee to clarify certain points.

Security Problems Delay Session

NC251428 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 1230 GMT 25 May 84

[Text] The date for the parliamentary session for a vote of confidence in the government has still not been fixed despite all the expectations that it would be held on either Tuesday or Thursday. The reasons given thus far do not provide sufficient explanations.

Sources in the office of the Chamber of Deputies speaker have said that the session's delay is due to difficulties related to the required security arrangements to protect the Chamber and surrounding area during the vote of confidence session.

The members of the office of the Chamber of Deputies speaker met today at the Al-Bustan Hotel in Bayt Miri under Speaker Kamil al-As'ad. The office said, in a statement issued after the meeting, that the agreed upon security plan requires a written order from the quarters responsible to confer procedural authority to confront any gunman attempting to ignore the arrangements which might be taken in the Qasr Mansur area.

The statement added that the conferees delegated the Chamber's Secretary General Ihsam Abu Khalil and Commander of the Chamber's Police 1st Lieutenant Muhammad Subayti the task of contacting Prime Minister Karami and explaining the situation in order that the appropriate measures might be taken.

This meeting was preceded by one at Mansur Palace under Deputy Speaker Munir Abu Fadil. It was attended by officers from the Army, Internal Security Forces, and public security and Chamber police, during which details of the security plan for the vote of confidence session were discussed.

Private sources have disclosed some details of the security plan. They said the plan calls for establishing a buffer zone from the Sodeco to At-Tayyunah and from Al-Barbir to the Museum, and halting traffic in these areas from 0900 until the conclusion of the session. The plan also calls for erecting barriers and for joint patrols of the Army, Internal Security Forces, and public security forces to guard the buffer zone roads.

In addition the plan calls for the quadripartite Security Committee to oversee these measures and to be in permanent session throughout the vote of confidence session.

Karami Approves Security Plan

NC251910 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 25 May 84

[Text] Prime Minister Rashid Karami this evening met with Ihsan Abu Khalil, Chamber of Deputies secretary general, in the presence of one of the officers in charge of security in the Chamber area [Mansur Palace]. Karami was briefed on and approved of the arrangements made in preparation for the vote of confidence session. Prime Minister Karami also received senior officers at the brigadier general rank of the Lebanese observers force who briefed him on the security situation. Prime Minister Karami received the popular follow-up committee for Ra's an-Nab' inhabitants. The committee informed him of the sufferings of the Ra's an-Nab' inhabitants and their continuing tragedy in light of the continued shelling of the area and displacement of its inhabitants.

Karami Comments on Vote

NC261908 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 1630 GMT 26 May 84

[Text] The government has informed the speaker of the Chamber of Deputies that it was ready to present its policy statement to the deputies and to seek a vote of confidence as of last Thursday. In an interview with the Voice of Arab Lebanon, Prime Minister Rashid Karami today reiterated his stance and confirmed that the government expects the vote of confidence session to be held this coming Tuesday [29 May]. Prime Minister Karami denied that there are obstacles hindering his mission and affirmed that a program for arrangements that will ensure security will be put into effect soon. The following interview was conducted with the prime minister:

[Begin recording] [Unidentified reporter] Mr Prime Minister, there are obstacles confronting the government preventing its progress along the path of conciliation for which it was formed. How do you define the nature of these obstacles?

[Karami] These obstacles are but visualizations by some people who are concerned about the conciliation process. I would like to assure everyone that the situation is proceeding normally and there are no obstacles as some wish to visualize.

[Reporter] Mr Prime Minister, how do you explain the noticeable delay in setting a date for the vote of confidence session?

[Karami] In fact, there is no delay. We, as a government, after drawing up the policy statement contacted the spekaker of the Chamber of Deputies and informed him that a session could be held as of last Thursday for debating the policy statement and for a vote of confidence. Today is Saturday, and the security measures required for convening the session were completed yesterday. I approved these measures following the speaker's approval. We expect the session to be held Tuesday. Thus there is no delay.

[Reporter] Mr Prime Minister, some deputies link their vote of confidence to specific security measures. Are there specific measures in the government's views?

[Karami] The government will inevitably draw up a security plan for the disengagement of forces, withdrawal of gunmen, and the control of the large-caliber weapons. Subsequently, the government will simultaneously reconsider the status of the Armed Forces, specifically the Army, so that it can carry out its required role.

[Reporter] Several names have been proposed to command the Army and military council. Has this subject been discussed?

[Karami] In fact we have not concluded our studies regarding all of these arrangements that you have mentioned. However, God willing, we will soon incorporate all of this in a specific program to be followed by the implementation process which we hope will be good.

[Reporter] Mr Prime Minister, what would you like to tell the Lebanese?

[Karami] I would like to turn to my Lebanese brothers and wish them the stability and security they seek. Subsequently I turn to the warring forces and ask them to end their practices because sooner or later we will arrive at a real cease-fire, that is, at peace. We must pity our kinfolks and the sons of the one people, and stop fighting one another, because innocent people, women, children, and old persons are being killed. We must spare our people the suffering from permanent fear. Thank you. [end recording]

Prime Minister Karami left Beirut tonight, arriving in Tripoli at 1820. He is expected to meet with former President Sulayman Franjiyah in Zgharta before returning to Beirut Monday.

Karami Makes Statement After Meeting President

NC281348 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 28 May 84

[Text] At 1220 today, President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil and Prime Minister Rashid Karami held a meeting during which they discussed security and political developments. At 1315, Joseph Skaf, minister of information and acting interior minister, joined the meeting. The meeting ended at 1400. After the meeting Prime Minister Karami said:

[Begin recording] This meeting was scheduled to take place last Saturday but, for private reasons affecting his excellency the president, the meeting was postponed until today. It is one of the weekly meetings to exchange views on the current developments in the country and to agree on ways to deal with these developments in the public interest. Today, we reviewed all the current security and political issues. As scheduled, we will appear before the Chamber of Deputies on Thursday to obtain its vote of confidence. Afterward, the government will embark on carrying out the program contained in the government statement of policy to deal with all these matters.

[Unidentified reporter] Mr Prime Minister, will the Cabinet hold a meeting on Wednesday [words indistinct]?

[Karami] It is one of the weekly meetings, and there is no reason for deferring it. As a Cabinet, we will meet on Wednesday.

[Unidentified reporter] Mr Prime Minister, is there anything new on the security level?

[Karami] Nothing new.

[Unidentified reporter] [words indistinct]

[Karami] The government is giving attention to all these subjects and is in the process of dealing with them. We hope to finish with all these matters soon by carrying them out. Thank you. [end recording]

Karami Continues Meetings on Situation in South

Remarks of French, PRC Envoys

NC251129 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 25 May 84

[Text] As part of his contacts with the ambassadors of the five major powers to discuss the repressive measures and practices in the south, Prime Minister Rashid Karami received at 1100 today at his office in the government house PRC Ambassador Yu Mengxin and briefed him on the Israeli occupation forces inhuman practices and measures in the south and western Al-Biqa'.

After the 30-minute meeting, Ambassador Mengxin said: We met with Prime Minister Rashid Karami who explained to us the situation in south Lebanon and western Al-Biqa'.

The ambassador was asked: What is your country's stand on Israel's actions? He answered: Our stand is, as you know, clear and firm. We denounce the Israeli aggression against south Lebanon. The Israeli occupation is the result of the aggressive and expansionist policy Israel has been pursuing for a long time. We firmly and resolutely support the Lebanese people's just struggle against the Israeli aggression. We support the demand for the unconditional termination of the aggression. We demand that Lebanon's independence be respected. We denounce the Israeli aggression and the Israeli savage operations in south Lebanon.

Regarding the contents of Prime Minister Karami's request to China, the Chinese ambassador said: Karami hopes the PRC will support the Lebanese people in their struggle against the occupation. The ambassador was asked: Will China support the Lebanese demand at the Security Council? He answered: This is known and we support the Security Council's views on the Israeli withdrawal.

At 1130 Prime Minister Karami received French ambassador Ferdinand Wibauz and discussed with him the Israeli measures and the pressure France could exert in international circles and Europe to stop the Israeli inhuman measures in Lebanon.

After the 30-minute meeting, the French ambassador said: No comment. Regarding the Israeli actions in the south, he said: You know France's policy in this regard. France accepts nothing less than the control of the legal Lebanese authority over all Lebanon. Asked about French support for the national resistance in the south, the ambassador said: I have nothing to say in this respect.

U.S. Proposal Rejected

NC251952 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 25 May 84

[Text] In clarification of what has been said about the U.S. ambassador's proposal that his country mediate between Lebanon and Israel on security arrangements in the south, Prime Minister Karami has said that what the U.S. ambassador has propounded is that if the two sides agree to U.S. mediation then it is ready. Karami added the ambassador said that the United States prefers that Lebanon and Israel enter into direct negotiations. Prime Minister Karami said that this is out of the question. Prime Minister Karami further said: We prefer that the state should guarantee security, especially in the south, with its own legitimate Armed Forces, particularly the Army, because we believe a strong Lebanon capable of guaranteeing its interests in the end guarantees the security of others.

Karami Briefs FRG Envoy

NC281116 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 28 May 84

[Excerpt] At 1100 today, Prime Minister Rashid Karami received the new FRG ambassador to Lebanon. They discussed bilateral relations and the situation in southern Lebanon in light of the Israeli occupation forces' inhuman actions against the citizens there. After the meeting, the FRG ambassador said: During the meeting with Prime Minister Karami I conveyed the best wishes of FRG Chancellor Helmut Kohl and Foreign Minister Genscher on his appointment as prime minister. During the meeting, Prime Minister Karami briefed us on the current developments at the local and international levels. Finally, we discussed bilateral relations. Asked what is his country's position toward Israel's actions in the south, he said: Prime Minister Karami briefed us on what is happening in the south, just as he did with the ambassadors of the other countries. He asked for our government's help to Lebanon as friends in order to achieve a solution to this difficult situation.

Government Asks Israel To Close Liaison Office

NC261539 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1515 GMT 26 May 84

[Text] The Israeli Liaison Office in Ad-Dubayyah has refused to comment on reports that Prime Minister Rashid Karami has informed Israel through its office of Lebanon's decision to close it down. The CENTRAL NEWS AGENCY, which reported this, said that the Lebanese side has not yet received an Israeli response to its decision to close down the office. It is known that this decision was made approximately a week ago and was conveyed 48 hours ago to the quarters concerned for forwarding to the Israeli officials.

Issue of Southern Exports to Saudi Arabia Resolved

NC271728 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 1630 GMT 27 May 84

[Text] It has been learned from official economic sources that the issue of the export of products and commodities from southern Lebanon to Saudi Arabia has been resolved following settlement of the problems that recently prompted the Riyadh government to ban the import of these products.

Information Minister Assumes Duties 29 May

NC290951 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 29 May 84

[Text] The ceremony marking the transfer of ministerial responsibilities between Information Minister Joseph Skaf and former Minister Roger Shaykhani took place this morning at the Information Ministry in As-Sana'i' in West Beirut in the presence of senior ministry officials.

Walid Junblatt Holds Talks in Damascus

NC261103 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 26 May 84

[Text] Walid Junblatt, minister of public works, transport, and tourism, accompanied by former Ministers Marwan Hamadah and Khalid Junblatt, went to Damascus today for talks with Syrian officials. Junblatt and his delegation are expected to spend 2 days in Damascus.

Seeking MEA Flights Via Damascus

JN261240 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1200 GMT 26 May 84

[Louis Faris dispatch from Damascus]

[Excerpt] Walid Junblatt, Lebanese minister of public works and tourism, arrived here this morning and met with 'Asim Qansuh, secretary general of the Ba'th Party organization in Lebanon, in the presence of Marwan Hamadah, Khalid Junblatt, and Tawfiq Sultan. Following the meeting, which lasted about 1 hour, Junblatt spoke about the reason for his visit to Damascus and the results of the meeting. He said that talks dealt with conducting flights via Damascus airport for the Lebanese Middle East Airlines due to the closure of Beirut airport. Asked if he expects Beirut airport to be reopened shortly, Junblatt said: This is connected with the general security situation, the Army, and other suspended matters. He added that he will meet with Vice President Khaddam tonight after the latter's return from his mission in Saudi Arabia.

Junblatt Returns From Damascus

NC270559 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 0530 GMT 27 May 84

[Text] Progressive Socialist Party leader Walid Junblatt returned from Damascus yesterday following talks with Syrian officials on the situation in Lebanon.

Birri Holds Meetings on South With Envoys

U.S. Ambassador

NC251132 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 25 May 84

[Excerpt] Lawyer Nabih Birri, minister of state for south Lebanon and reconstruction affairs and minister of justice and water and electrical resources, received U.S. Ambassador Reginald Bartholomew at 1030 this morning and discussed developments with him for 1 and 1/2 hours, particularly the serious situation in the south in light of the repressive measures there.

Bulgarian, Yugoslav Ambassadors

NC281138 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 28 May 84

[Excerpt] Minister Nabih Birri today received the Bulgarian Ambassador to Lebanon. He briefed him on the Israeli forces' aggressions and detentions in the south and in western Al-Biqa'. After the meeting, the Bulgarian ambassador said: We came to congratulate his excellency the minister on the occasion of his assumption of his ministerial portfolio and his many responsibilities to consolidate the security and stability of this country in order to help the Lebanese get rid of their problems. We have supported and blessed the long struggle of the people of the south and western Al-Biqa' against the Israeli occupation forces. We have declared our rejection of their arbitrary actions and we have expressed our strong admiration for the resistance of the people of the south and western Al-Biqa'. At 1300 today, Minister Birri also received the Yugoslav ambassador for the same purpose.

French, Netherlands Envoys

NC281900 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 28 May 84

[Text] Lawyer Nabih Birri, minister of state for southern Lebanon and reconstruction affairs and minister of water and electrical resources and justice, received at 1500 today in his office at the UNESCO premises Mark Boniveaux, director of Middle Eastern and African affairs in the French External Relations Ministry, who was accompanied by Ferdinand Wibaux, French ambassador to Lebanon. Dr Zuhayr Birri, member of the Amal Movement Political Bureau, attended the meeting. The discussions centered on the situation in southern Lebanon. Minister Birri briefed the French envoy on the serious situation in the south in light of the continued Israeli occupation forces' acts of aggression and arbitrary practices there. Discussing his visit, the French envoy said: We and Minister Birri are friends. Our discussions dealt with our friendship and the relations between France and Lebanon. The French envoy declined to go into the details of the talks he had with Minister Birri.

This afternoon, Minister Birri received the Netherlands ambassador to Lebanon and reviewed with him the current developments, the Israeli occupation of the south, and the serious situation resulting from this occupation — the enemy's continued siege and his practices against the inhabitants there.

PSP Radio on Objections to Barakat as Commander

NC251840 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1630 GMT 25 May 84

[Excerpt] With regard to the Cabinet and the question of the Army, sources close to Nabih Birri, the minister of state for south Lebanon and reconstruction affairs, today quoted him as saying that the stance toward the issue of the Army has not changed and will not change — it is the same stance that existed prior to and after the Cabinet's formation.

These sources impressed on Minister Birri the demand for a commander who unites, not divides [the Army], and a commander who can reunite the Army, not expand its division. Furthermore, Nabih Birri has been quoted as saying that he opposes limiting key Army posts to one faction or to one community, and that he believes a just distribution of these posts is a must.

In another development, a leading minister today intimated at a private gathering that he might be compelled to resign his Cabinet post if a final decision is made appointing Brigadier General Antoine Barakat as Army commander to succeed Ibrahim Tannus. The minister said: Others and I regard Brig Gen Antoine Barakat as a symbol of the civil war — a symbol of partiality to one faction to the detriment of the other. The minister added: To me personally, this is a question of principle, and I do not allow myself to make concessions that jeopardize my stances and harm those whom I represent.

Amal Gunmen Kidnap ABC Correspondent 25 May

NC251133 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1115 GMT 25 May 84

[Text] A number of Amal gunmen today stormed the Comodore Hotel in Al-Hamra' and kidnapped ABC correspaondent Antoine As'ad 'Awn. They took the correspondent to an unknown destination.

Correspondent Taken to Suburb

NC260505 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0445 GMT 26 May 84

[Text] The fate of ABC correspondent Antoine As'ad 'Awn is still unknown. The correspondent was kidnapped the day before yesterday [as heard] by Amal gunmen from the Commodore Hotel in Al-Hamra' and was taken to an Amal position in Beirut's southern suburb.

Released 26 May

NC260732 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0715 GMT 26 May 84

[Text] ABC correspondent Antoine As'ad 'Awn was released this morning. The correspondent was kidnapped Thursday night while leaving the Commodore Hotel in the Al-Hamra' area.

Guarded Calm Prevails Following Violent Clashes

NC280516 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0300 GMT 28 May 84

[Text] Guarded calm prevails on the traditional combat lines in Beirut and the southern suburb following the violent clashes that took place on these lines last night and in which artillery and rocket weapons were used. The shelling had extended to the residential quarters adjacent to the contact lines. The Security Arrangements Committee will continue its contacts to consolidate the state of calm and to implement its decision to reopen the Galerie Sim'an-Mar Mikha'il road and the port road between the two parts of the city. The Security Arrangements Committee yesterday completed the removal of earth barriers on the Museum-Al-Barbir road and the road was opened for traffic in both directions. The earth barrier in the Al-Barbir area, including a burned tank, has been removed.

Further on Security Situation

NC281830 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 28 May 84

[Text] Security sources have reported that clashes are now taking place on some of the combat lines in the capital and its southern suburb. In the capital, the clashes are taking place in the areas of Ra's an-Nab', Primo, and the Commercial markets; in the southern suburb, the clashes are taking place in Al-Barid, Al-Matahin, Al-Laylakah, and Saqy al-Hadath. Projectiles fell in the vicinities of these populated areas. Contacts are taking place among the quarters concerned to deal with the situation on all the combat lines. These quarters will soon announce a cease-fire agreement.

Security Committee Concludes Meeting

NC281846 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1815 GMT 28 May 84

[Text] The Security Arrangements Committee has wound up its meeting without releasing any statements. Our correspondent has reported that the discussions which passed in a positive atmosphere dwelt on the security measures that are necessary for reopening the crossing points at Mar Mikha'il and the port. The conferees discussed the possibility of vacating certain military positions that are in direct control of the two crossing points, and of blocking the side roads that lead to them. The conferees agreed to meet tomorrow to resume the discussions of the above mentioned measures.

Gunfire, Explosions Heard

NC290520 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0300 GMT 29 May 84

[Text] Intermittent bursts of automatic weapons fire, interspersed by occasional explosions, are being heard on the traditional combat lines in Beirut and the southern suburb. Violent clashes took place on these lines last night during which various types of weapons were used. Shells fell in Ra's an-Nab', Khandaq al-Ghamiq, and Al-Basta. Shells also reportedly fell in Al-Hadath, 'Ayn ar-Rummanah, and Furn ash-Shubbak. The Security Arrangements Committee held contacts to stop the clashes and calm the situation.

Franjiyah Comments on Government, U.S. Presence

NC251117 Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon in Arabic 1030 GMT 25 May 84

[Text][Former] President Sulayman Franjiyah has said that with a real government in Lebanon, the Lebanese problem would be solved in 1 month. In an interview with *AT-TADAMUN* magazine, Franjiyah added that this government cannot possibly succeed because there are certain members who entertain terrorist designs which will undermine the good intentions of the other members. He said that the eloquent lesson that Lebanon has given to the United States will go down in history, and he expressed the hope that this lesson would be an example to be followed by other Arab countries. He said that the aim of U.S. ships off the Lebanese coast is mainly to demonstrate muscle flexing and to encourage Israel's agents to continue their activities.

Americans Moving From West to East Beirut

NC281418 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1345 GMT 28 May 84

[Text] A number of foreign nationals and diplomats, particularly Americans, were today observed moving from West to East Beirut. This comes in the wake of reports appearing yesterday that American nationals in the western area will be kidnapped.

Plan To Kidnap Americans Denied

NC281729 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1630 GMT 28 May 84

[Text] The Amal Movement educational office has issued a statement saying that the Phalangist radio has been circulating false reports that Amal Movement students at the American University in Beirut have forbidden parties and restricted swimming times. This is a rumor to create confusion among students. We declare that there are youths, not terrorists, at the university seeking education. Their concern about political affairs is part of their national duty. Attributing reports to sources at the American Embassy is part of the Phalangist information media's attempts to force university professors to leave preparatory to expanding the university branches in East Beirut. The statement affirmed that the American University and all its members will be protected.

Meanwhile, a responsible source at the American University has denied the media reports that there is a plan for a mass kidnapping of American citizens, including the professors at the university. The source said that American University will continue its educational mission and that the American professors have expressed their belief in continuing this mission.

AFP on Security at University

NC281755 Paris AFP in English 1730 GMT 28 May 84

[Excerpt] Beirut, May 28 (AFP) — The American University of Beirut (AUB) was under tight security today following intelligence reports from the U.S. Embassy that a group of Moslem extremists was planning attacks on its teaching staff. The AFP correspondent here saw many of the university's professors with bodyguards, and Lebanese soldiers stationed at staff residences and atop university buildings.

The AUB said in a statement that it had received reports on the affair yesterday from the U.S. embassy. Embassy press officer John Stewart told AFP the reports indicated the attacks would take place if Americans were still in Lebanon by "the first day of the celebration," presumably meaning the Moslem Ramadan celebration which begins on Wednesday or Thursday. Lebanese newspaper reports have given the name of the Moslem group as Hezbollah, a pro-Iranian Shi'ite movement. Mr Stewart specified neither a name nor date.

Lebanese police were guarding university entrances on the ocean side, near the British Embassy, a region under control of the Amal Shi'ite movement and its allies. Only staff members with identity cards were being admitted.

Syria Reportedly Sets Up Al-Biqa' Radar System

NC260830 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0815 GMT 26 May 84

[Text] Our Al-Biqa' correspondent reports that the Syrian forces have started developing an air defense system in the Al-Biqa', specifically on the contact lines with the Israeli forces. The Syrian forces are currently setting up early warning radar systems.

RFL on Syrian Reinforcements, Radar in Al-Biqa'

NC261124 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1045 GMT 26 May 84

[Text] Our correspondent in Al-Biqa' has reported that the Syrian forces have brought in fresh reinforcements — equipment and personnel — on the contact lines with the Israeli forces in western Al-Biqa'. Our correspondent added that the 10th Division of the Syrian Army is deployed on the confrontation lines and that the 65th Brigade of the 3d Division is deployed between Ghazzah and 'Anjar in the south and as far as Mata in the north. It should be recalled that the above mentioned brigade is under the command of Colonel Mufid Abu Hamdan, who receives direct orders from President Hafiz al-Asad. The brigade is equipped with T-72 tanks.

The Syrian Forces have built six F-12 and F-15 radar systems on the eastern range between 'Anjar and Kusaya that can detect targets above [ma fawq] 1,000 meters. A radar network that can detect targets below [ma dun] 1,000 meters has been built in the As-Safri and Hawsh al-Ghanam aera. A SAM-3 network has also been erected. The network is manned by the 116th Battalion of the Syrian Air Defenses.

Syrian Missiles in Al-Biqa'

NC271111 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1045 GMT 27 May 84

[Text] Our Al-Biqa' correspondent has learned that the Syrians have positioned SA-6 and SA-7 missiles in the Al-Fa'ur and Barr Ilyas areas. He said a Soviet expert named (Romlu) recently attended a Syrian security meeting in 'Anjar and supervised the construction of fortifications by the Syrians in the Turbul farm lands.

Syrian Defense Minister Tours Positions

NC251725 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1615 GMT 25 May 84

[Text] Our correspondent has reported that Syrian defense Minister Mustafa Talas today made a tour of the Syrian positions in the Al-Matn area. He ended his tour at 1830 today.

VOL on IDF, Syrian, Soviet Al-Biqa' Presence

NC271400 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1115 GMT 27 May 84

[Text] The tense atmosphere enveloping the frontlines in the western Al-Biqa' valley has taken a new turn with large daily reinforcements on the Syrian and Israeli sides. On the one hand Soviet experts have participated in constructing Syrian fortifications, and on the other, the Israelis have introduced their modern Merkava-2 tanks. This is the first time these tanks have been deployed.

According to our security sources, the Syrian Army stationed in the western Al-Biqa' numbers 40,000 men, with 12,000 positioned along the Al-Biqa' frontlines. Two armored brigades are stationed in the area between the hills of Dayr al-'Asha'ir and Watta al-Fukhkhar, and one brigade from the 1st Division is stationed between the Al-Masna'-As-Sawirah area and Bayadir al-'Adas. Another brigade from the 1st Division is situated between the sugar factory and Kamid al-Laws areas and the frontlines. It is worth noting that the 1st Division is the Syrian Army's strongest and is normally assigned to defend Damascus.

The Syrian Army is backed by 110-mm field artillery pieces having a maximum range of 17 km and positioned in the Miksi valley and Majdal 'Anjar. The Syrians have positioned 138-mm field artillery with a maximum range of 35 km in the Ta'lbaya valley. The entire contingent of Syrian field artillery guns totals 198.

In addition, the Syrian Army is equipped with BM-21 rocket launchers with a maximum range of 28 km and which can fire 40 rockets. There are 66 such launchers in the Al-Biqa' area.

Furthermore, 1,100 tanks are deployed by the Syrians in the following manner:

B-55 tanks, with 100-mm guns, are deployed along the entire frontline, particularly in the Al-Marj valley and Majdal 'Anjar;
B-62 tanks, with 110-mm guns, are deployed along the front particularly in Qabb Ilyas;
B-72 tanks, the Syrians' most modern, with 125-mm guns, are concentrated at the eastern hills of (Usayyah).

Meanwhile, approximately 8,000 Israeli soldiers are stationed on the opposite side of the front. They are backed by 155-mm field artillery, with a maximum range of (?16) km in Kifrayya; and by 172-mm field artillery with a maximum range of 48 kilometer in Rashayya.

Israeli tanks are deployed as follows:

Merkava-1 tanks, with 105-mm guns, are deployed all along the front;
The ultra modern Merkava-2 tanks [areas of deployment not specified], which are immune to regular anti-tank shells due to its reinforced structure.

It should be recalled that the Israeli forces rely not only on quantity but also on mobility which enables them to mobilize their positions on the front and conduct attacks within hours.

Regarding the Soviet experts, they serve permanently as military experts at the upper echelon positions and the division commands. Furthermore, the SAM missile network is deployed along the Turbul-Kafr Zabad contact line, and in the proximity of Al-Masna'. Meanwhile, the Syrian forces have installed radar networks on the highlands.

Observers have noticed a considerable increase of fortifications and reinforcements. Furthermore, tanks [army affiliation not specified] can move from the rear lines to the front lines through corridors specifically designated for this purpose, although these corridors are not visible on the terrain. The Syrian forces have also constructed tunnels made of iron in the confrontation areas.

A buffer zone of approximately 200 to 400 meters separates the Syrian and Israeli forces.

It should be noted that nightly skirmishes take place between the two sides in which small- and medium-caliber weapons, as well as flares, are used.

Israelis Search Sidon School, Arrest Students

NC290936 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 29 May 84

[Text] Israeli forces early this morning stormed the Sidon higher technical and vocational school and searched all its departments, including the students' lockers and beds and the school workshops, after surrounding the school with tanks and heavy vehicles. The operation continued until the early hours of the morning. During the operation, the students were beaten, insulted, and questioned. It has transpired that the Israeli forces have detained seven students. At 2330 yesterday, Lebanese national resistence fighters fired a rocket at an Israeli enemy position located near the teachers college at Sidon's northern entrance. The enemy losses are still unknown. The occupation forces cordoned off the area, fired flares, searched the area using heavy-caliber machine guns, deployed mechanized patrols, and closed the roads for some time.

Resistance Front Claims 51 Casualties in 1 Month

NC251745 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 1630 GMT 25 May 84

[Text] The national Lebanese resistance front has renewed its pledge to continue the struggle against the Zionist enemy and its agents until all the national soil is liberated. The front said in a statement issued today that the total number of its operations against the occupation forces during the period from 27 April to 24 May was 43. These operations, aimed at the enemy forces and the agent army forces, killed or wounded more than 51 of them despite all the recent measures adopted by the Israeli enemy in his unilateral implementation of the 17 May accord articles.

The national Lebanese resistance front concluded its statement by hailing the glorious and continuing popular uprising in the towns and villages of the occupied area and in the Palestinians camps in the south [of Lebanon]. It pledged to the masses that it will continue the armed struggle until liberation.

KUNA Cites Magazine on 15 May Coup Attempt

LD261211 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0907 GMT 26 May 84

[Excerpts] Beirut, 26 May (KUNA) — A Lebanese magazine published today has revealed that an attempt at a coup d'etat was due to take place on 15 May 1984 to overthrow president Amin al-Jumayyil and the government of national unity presided over by Rashid Karami.

The magazine, *AL-KIFAH AL-'ARABI* says that the military force that was prepared to carry out the coup was comprised of American-made tanks, troop carriers, armored vehicles, two mortar units, and several command jeeps, all of which belonged to the 8th Brigade of the regular Lebanese Army stationed at the Sarba barracks in the region of (Khosruwan) which is under the control of Christian militias, in addition to hundreds of of elements from the Lebanese Phalangist forces, under the command of Samir Ja'Ja', official in charge of mobilization in these forces.

The magazine points out that the force supposed to carry out the coup was waiting for a signal from the Phalangist war council in order to move to the Republican Palace in the suburb of Ba'abda, where it was supposed to meet with another force coming from the region of Al-Hadath, near the palace.

The magazine says that the objective of the coup was to prevent the Council of Ministers meeting the next day, the adoption of draft Cabinet program, debates on changing the command of the Army which is under the command of General Ibrahim Tannus, who is close to the Christian militias, and to prevent also any official move to take a unified stand regarding the Israeli occupation and the question of liberating the south which is occupied by the Israeli Army, and the closing of the Israeli liaison bureau in the region of Ad-Dubayyah.

Military sources told KUNA that this attempt was also aimed at arresting the ministers of the government of national unity during their meeting in the village of Bikfayya, the birthplace of President Amin al-Jumayyil.

It is known that Samir Ja'Ja', commander of the region of [name indistinct] on behalf of the Phalange Party led by Pierre al-Jumayyil, is a Sharonist, that is one of those who deal most with Israel, amid the Phalangist Lebanese forces led by Fadi Fram, a relative of President al-Jumayyil.

The magazine says that Elie Habiqa, the head of intelligence of the Lebanese Phalangist forces, discovered this attempt when he received a report on military movements in the region of Ad-Dawrah, suburb of East Beirut. He then informed Colonel Simon Qasis, the head of Lebanese Army intelligence, about this. Qasis immediately had contacts with the command of the Army in (Yurza), with the command of the 8th Brigade in Sarba, and in the Beirut area. Military measures were taken immediately, and the attempt was uncovered before any move by the armed force to leave the region of Ad-Dawra for the Republican Palace.

The magazine says that Colonel Qasis told President al-Jumayyil about the attempt. He summoned the commander of the Phalangist forces, Fadi Fram, and the head of intelligence of these forces, Elie Habiqa, to the Republican Palace, to learn from them what was going on.

The magazine adds that the atmosphere of the meeting between the three was tense and emotional. It quotes Fram as saying in the meeting that the Lebanese Phalangist forces now feel that they have been discarded from the government of Mr Rashid Karami, and from the decisionmaking process and dealings with the government do not indicate any desire to give it any future role.

The magazine points out that President al-Jumayyil has asked Fram to hold an urgent meeting of the command of the forces he heads and to deprive Samir Ja'Ja' of his military responsibilities. It is to be noted that the day after the coup attempt, the Lebanese Cabinet did not make any decision concerning the ministerial communique [on the government program] and the Army issue was not discussed.

Khaddam, Ash-Shar' Brief Al-Asad on Iran Talks

JN252035 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2015 GMT 25 May 84

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad received Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam and Foreign Minister Faruq ash-Shar' this evening. Khaddam and Ash-Shar' conveyed to the president Iranian President 'Ali Khamene'i's reply to his message on the situation resulting from the tension in the Gulf region. Khaddam and Ash-Shar' briefed the president on their talks in Iran with Iranian President 'Ali Khamene'i, Majlis Speaker Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani, Foreign Minister Dr 'Ali Akbar Velayati, and other Iranian officials.

Khaddam, Ash-Shar' Convey Message to Saudi King

JN261854 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 26 May 84

[Text] Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam and Foreign Minister Faruq ash-Shar' arrived in Jidda at noon today. President Hafiz al-Asad delegated them to go on a mission during which Khaddam will convey a message to King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz from President Hafiz al-Asad dealing with the efforts that Syria is exerting to reduce tension in the Gulf and to prevent the expansion of war. Khaddam and Ash-Shar' were received at Jidda Airport by Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deptuy prime minister and minister of defense and aviation and general inspector; Foreign Minister Prince Saud al-Faysal; the Syrian ambassador to Saudi Arabia; and a number of officials.

Return to Damascus 26 May

JN261925 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1915 GMT 26 May 84

[Text] Damascus, 26 May (SANA) — Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam and Foreign Minister Faruq ash-Shar' returned to Damascus this evening from Jidda after delivering a message to Saudi King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz from President Hafiz al-Asad.

Iraq Disrupting Syrian Mediation Efforts

JN252054 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2015 GMT 25 May 84

[Text] A responsible Syrian source answered a question on the military escalation in the Gulf region during the past 2 days and its relation to Syria's efforts. He said: By escalating military operations in the Gulf, the Iraqi regime aims at disrupting Syria's efforts to reduce tension in the Gulf, to prevent the expansion of the scale of military operations, and to guarantee the freedom of navigation for all the Gulf countries. Moreover, by escalating the raids, the Iraqi regime aims at expanding the war and involving the Gulf countries in this war. This regime began this aggressive war against the Iranian revolution, initiated the bombing of oil tankers in the Gulf, and has escalated the raids against oil tankers near Khark Island in the past 2 days.

Damascus Comments on Iraqi Regime's 'Crimes'

JN261447 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 26 May 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam and Foreign Minister Faruq ash-Shar' left for Saudi Arabia today. President Hafiz al-Asad delegated them to go on a mission concerned with the efforts Syria is exerting to reduce tension in the Gulf and to prevent the expansion of the war that Saddam Husayn's regime began 4 years ago. The president had earlier sent Khaddam and Ash-Shar' on a similar mission to Iran. All sides concerned with the deliberate escalation of tension in the Gulf welcome Syria's efforts and hope that they will succeed in serving the fraternal Gulf states and the people of the region as well as their joint effort to confront imperialist ambitions and foreign domination.

Saddam Husayn's regime, which is persistently trying to expand the war and involve the Gulf states, has stepped up its attacks on oil tankers in the Gulf in order to hamper Syria's efforts, increase tension, involve the largest possible number of Gulf states in the war, and create an appropriate atmosphere for imperialism to intervene in the affairs of the Gulf in particular and of the region in general. The Iraqi regime's escalated bombing operation in the past 2 days has revealed that regime's intentions, objectives, and real position toward the Gulf states and their security, peace, and national interests. It is not strange for the Iraqi regime — which plotted against unity between Syria and Iraq in order to serve the aims of imperialism, Israel, and the Arab nations' enemies, and which plunged Iraq into a state of destruction through its aggressive war against the Iranian revolution — to wreak havoc on the interests of the Gulf and the region, and to try to create a large dispute in which only the enemy of the Arabs and Iran will win.

Any attempt to create an appropriate atmosphere for U.S. imperialism to achieve its objectives in the Gulf, especially its old aspirations of establishing military bases in the Gulf and around the sources of oil, is considered a crime against Iraq, the Gulf states, and all of the countries in the region and an attempt to bring the fiercest form of international conflict to the Gulf and the region. All sides that are concerned about preventing the spread of Saddam's aggressive war, halting the escalation of tension, and guaranteeing the freedom of navigation in the Gulf for all countires, are duty-bound to confront Saddam and prevent his dangerous playing with fire near the oil sources, which might ignite at any moment, and near the international routes and waters, where many countries and people have vital interests.

Saddam's aggressive war against the Iranian revolution, the natural ally of the Arabs in their conflict with imperialism and Zionism, is hostile to Iraq itself, to the Arabs, and to the people of the region in their struggle against imperialism and Zionism. It contradicts the Arab nation's interests in establishing a strategic balance with the Zionist enemy, a balance that might compensate for Egypt's absence from the Arab fold. Similarly, the escalation of the Saddam regime's operations against the freedom of navigation in the Gulf and the efforts to contain the existing tension in the Gulf are also crimes.

Syria, which has condemned the aggressive war against Iran from the first moment, will continue to work with the Arab brothers and with all enemies of imperialism and Zionism for the sake of the Arab nation's interests and its pan-Arab battle against the Israeli enemy and its protector, the U.S. imperialism. Syria will also continue to work against the expansionist ambitions of the United States and Israel in the region in order to prevent the creation of an appropriate atmosphere that might help U.S. imperialism achieve its projects, plans, and ambitions in the region and the Gulf.

Damascus Assails U.S. Designs in Gulf Region

JN271244 Damascus Doemstic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 27 May 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] The United States is continuing its rabid attempts to escalate tension and spread the atmosphere of war throughout the Gulf region with the purpose of establishing every conceiveable pretext for its military intervention and the expansion of its strategic presence in the region in any form. In addition to the military moves that are backed by allegations and claims to justify the intervention, the United States announces its readiness to dispatch additional forces and even mobilize a massive campaign to invade the region with the participation of its NATO allies within the framework of the military command which was formed to administer the aggressive operations in that region.

Undoubtedly the intention to intervene is not new or a result of recent developments in the Iraqi regime's war against Iran. It is an old intention announced by the Nixon administration prior to the British withdrawal from the region in order to replace the British under the pretext of the so-called need to fill the vacuum. This intention was significantly revealed at the beginning of 1980 when the former U.S. administration proposed the then-called Carter doctrine which implied the protection of the Gulf security through U.S. military means.

The United States endeavored within the implementation of that doctrine to involve the Iraqi regime in a war against Iran and succeeded in doing that. This is as though launching that war was a necessary prelude to facilitate U.S. military intervention in the region. Here it is must pointed out that most Gulf countries at that time had said that the security of the Gulf would be protected by the sons of the Gulf themselves. However, the United States endeavored to fuel the conflict. It fuelled the Iraqi regime's war against Iran in order to place all the Gulf countries in a position that deludes these countries into believing that the only way to safeguard their security lies in seeking U.S. protection.

It seems that U.S. calculations regarding the consequences of military intervention were not accurate. The U.S. planes crashed in the Tabas desert while attempting to release the U.S. hostages who were being held in Tehran. The failure of that attempt was one of the main reasons for Carter's downfall in the presidential elections. It is not yet known whether U.S. President Reagan is seeking to mobilize a successful military campaign to the Gulf region in an attempt to compensate for his miserable failure in Lebanon. This despite the fact that this region is one the world's most sensitive and vital regions and greatly influences the safety and security of the world, and despite the fact that expanding the scale of the war in it will lead the world to a devastating world war III.

The United States is seeking various excuses and pretexts and aims to expand the scale of the Gulf war under the cover of claiming concern for safeguarding the supply of the industrial world with oil, and under the pretext of claiming the existence of a threat to close the Strait of Hormuz. However, has the United States considered the fact that Nazi Germany's main execuse for igniting World War II was the Danzig Strait? Is that not worth contempleting in view of the dire consequences of fuelling and expanding the scale of war in the Gulf region?

Rif'at al-Asad Leaves for USSR 28 May

JN281025 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1015 GMT 28 May 84

[Text] At the invitation of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, Vice President Dr Rif'at al-Asad left for Moscow this morning on a cordial working visit to the USSR. He is accompanied by a delegation comprised of a number of Ba'th Party and government officials.

Coverage of Visit

For Damascus and Soviet coverage of the visit to Moscow by Vice President Rif'at al-Asad including a report on his meeting with candidate Polituro member Vasily Kuznetsov, see the Middle East & North Africa section of the 29 May Soviet Union *DAILY REPORT* and subsequent issues.

Al-Ahmar Receives Bulgarian Official 26 May

JN261504 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1310 GMT 26 May 84

[Text] Damascus, 26 May (SANA) — 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, assistant secretary general of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, received here today Stoyan Karadzhov, chairman of the Central Control-AuditingCommission of the Bulgarian Communist Party [BCP]. Ghassan Abu Tawq chairman of the [Ba'th] Party's control and inspection commission, was present. During the meeting, Al-Ahmar touched on the current political developments in the Arab region, and said that the United States and Israel would be responsible for escalating and aggravating the situation in the region.

Comrade al-Ahmar also emphasized that Syria under struggler President Hafiz al-Asad, secretary general of the party and president of the republic, would continue its confrontation of and steadfastness against imperialist, Zionist, and reactionary conspiracies, by depending on its intrinsic forces on the one hand and on the support of the socialist countries, the foremost of which is the Soviet Union, on the other.

Comrade Karadzhov also praised the relations between the BCP and the Ba'th Party and between the peoples of the two friendly countries. The guest delegation also expressed its high appreciation of the national and progressive policy that Syria adopts under President Hafiz al-Asad against imperialism and Zionism.

Commissions Conclude Meetings

JN261900 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1815 GMT 26 May 84

[Text] Damascus — The final meeting was held in Damascus this evening between the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party's control and inspection commission led by Comrade Ghassan Abu Tawq and the Central Control-Auditing Commission of the Bulgarian Communist Party led by Comrade Stoyan Karadzhov.

Talks during the meeting dealt with organizational issues, the viewpoints on all issues concerning the two commissions in the two friendly countries, and the cooperation between them. The guest delegation expressed satisfaction with the talks it has held during the visit, and expressed admiration of Syria's development in all fields as a result of comrade struggler President Hafiz al-Asad's wise leadership.

Bulgarian Delegation Departs

JN271756 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1745 GMT 27 May 84

[Text] Damascus, 27 May (SANA) — The Central Control-Auditing Commission of the Bulgarian Communist Party led by Comrade Stoyan Karadzhov left Damascus this morning for home after visiting Syria for several days at the invitation of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party's control and inspection commission. During the visit, the Bulgarian delegation held talks with the Ba'th Party's control andinspection commission on ways to begin cooperation and to exchange expertise between the two commissions of the two friendly parties.

Khaddam Holds Meetings With Lebanese Officials

JN271229 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1200 GMT 27 May 84

[Text] Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam held a series of meetings with Lebanese officials today. He first met with Hani Salam, then Marwan Hamadah, Khalid Junblatt, Tawfiq Sultan, and Riyad Ra'd. Marwan Hamadah stated that the discussion focused on the general situation in the Lebanese arena. The Lebanese delegation left Damascus for Al-Mukhtarah at noon today to brief Walid Junblatt and Nabih Birri on the results of the talks which, according to some sources, dealt with the bases on which the Lebanese Army Command must be reorganized.

Defense Ministry Reports on Bus Terrorists' Deaths

TA281425 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1330 GMT 28 May 84

["Announcement by the Defense Minister's Media Affairs Adviser" — ITIM headline]

[Text][no dateline as received] 1. Major General (Reserves) Me'ir Zore'a has submitted to the defence minister the report written by the commission of inquiry which he headed, discussing the circumstances of the death of the terrorists who overtook the Egged passenger bus on 12 April 1984, held the passengers hostage, and threatened to blow up the bus and its passengers.

2. The defense minister appointed the commission of inquiry immediately after the suspicion was raised that two of the terrorists were alive when an IDF task force broke into and took control of the bus, and that they were killed later.

3. In the course of the investigation, and after hearing the testimony of scores of witnesses, the commission ordered the exhumation of the terrorists' bodies for examination by a specialist from the Abu Kabir Forensic Medicine Center, to determine the cause of death.

4. Based on the evidence it had, the commission determined that two of the terrorists, Jamal Mahmud 'Isa Qablan and Muhammad Subhi Mahmud Barakah, were killed in the initial stage of the assault by the force that broke into the bus, as a result of shots fired by that unit. The two other terrorists, Majdi Ahmad 'Ali Abu Jum'ah and Subhi Shihadah Hasan Abu Jum'ah, were wounded during the takeover, but died later.

5. It transpired from the testimonies and evidence the commission obtained that as the unit was taking over the bus, severe blows were dealt to the heads and bodies of the two terrorists, in order to shock them and prevent any possibility of their setting off the bomb that remained on the bus. The commission ruled that these blows were an operational necessity intended to prevent a possible threat to human lives.

6. Immediately after they were numbed, the two terrorists were removed from the bus, escorted by personnel from the security forces, and were led to a field nearby for initial questioning to determine there and then whether there was the possibility that the bus had been booby-trapped or whether there were other terrorists in the area who could prove to be an immediate danger.

7. After the two terrorists were taken off the bus, they were beaten harshly by people at the scene of the action.

8. One of the terrorists died of skull fractures as a result of a blow to his head with a blunt instrument which occurred, at the earliest, in the period between his removal from the bus and, at the latest, his removal from the area altogether. The second terrorist perished from a fractured skull as a result of a blow to the back of his head with a blunt instrument sometime between the takeover by the IDF force, when he was captured, and, at the latest, just before his evacuation from the area.

9. The commission ruled that the security forces received no instruction that could imply that the two terrorists who remained alive should be killed or hurt, and no one claims that he received such an order or could discern such an implied message in any instruction.

10. The commission similarly ruled that in the briefings and orders pertaining to the takeover operation, no one had addressed the question of securing and handling the terrorists who would fall into the hands of the security forces. Nor were there orders on this matter after the two terrorists were captured on the bus. In effect, at that time there were no arrangements on site to safeguard them and prevent unauthorized people from entering the area.

11. In addition to the above, the commission also reached conclusions and findings both on the personal and institutional levels.

12. In the personal sphere, the commission's findings raise the suspicion that felonies were committed by several individuals from the security forces. Therefore, an investigation will be held to determine what legal steps should be taken. The investigation will be carried out by the military police's investigatory branch and the Israel Police in conjunction with the Military Judge Advocates branch. Disciplinary measures will likewise be taken against certain other personnel from the security forces who failed to fulfill their duties in such cases.

13. The findings in the institutional sphere, and those that pertain to procedures and arrangements connected with the arraignment of terrorists captured by the security forces, are basically acceptable to the defense minister, and he will act to implement them.

14. The defense minister takes a very grave view of, and strongly condemns, the conduct that led to the death of the two terrorists captured on board the bus — conduct that clearly contradicts fundamental rules and norms that everyone, and particularly the security forces, must obey. Furthermore, even the special circumstances of the incident cannot justify such conduct, and therefore legal measures will be taken, in accordance with the testimony that will emerge from the investigation, against the people suspected of misdeeds or misbehavior in contravention of the law. Similarly, all possible measures will be taken to prevent such a case from recurring.

15. The report itself was classified by the commission as "top secret" because of various details that appear in it. This announcement outlines the main summary of the findings that are publishable.

Arens Takes 'Grave View' of Findings

TA281454 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1405 GMT 28 May 84

[Interview with Defense Minister Moshe Arens by military correspondent Doron Rosenblum "after the publication of the Zore'a report" on 28 May; place not given — live or recorded]

[Text] [Rosenblum] Mr Defense Minister, Professor Moshe Arens: The commission's report says that in the time following the removal of the two terrorists from the bus they were dealt constant severe blows. At least in connection to one of them, the report finds that those beatings were the cause of his death. First of all, what is your reaction to this?

[Arens] I take a very grave view of it. I presume that the determination of the commission is actually the right one about the facts involved in the incident, which are grave, extraordinary, and should not happen. We must make sure that such things never happen again.

[Rosenblum] How can this be guaranteed?

[Arens] By having clear, unequivocal instructions, and by exercising self-discipline on the part of all the bodies involved in such cases of a terrorist takeover of a bus. When terrorists attack a bus, this is not a calm event; it is a test — perhaps a personal test — for everyone involved. This was the case this time, especially since a young girl, a soldier who was on the bus, was killed. Yet nothing can justify what happened.

[Rosenblum] Will charges be filed or legal measures taken against the people whom the commission ruled had broken the law?

[Arens] An investigation will be held of the people about whom the commission found a suspicion of misdemeanor. If the investigation leads to their trial, one may assume that if they are convicted, they will also be sentenced.

[Rosenblum] The commission's report states that there was no order — and no previous regulations were found — stating that the terrorists should be hurt, and certainly not killed. Still, this was the case. Could one then assume, on the basis of this individual incident, that this could have been done in other cases, too, when the press was uninformed.

[Arens] No, this should not happen and is not happening. Furthermore, I hope that it will not happen in future. This is a special [harig] case. I do not know of anything that even slightly resembles such a case, and I am convinced this will not recur.

[Rosenblum] What damage do you think Israel has suffered — in terms of propaganda and media relations — as a result of this incident and the explosive media coverage in the few days that followed it?

[Arens] I do not believe this is the main problem. In the final analysis, we proved this time too that when there is an outstanding case here, and there is even a suspicion that there has been a violation of the law — even in the severe circumstances in which Israel exists, and we are living under enormous constraints — we act according to the law and the rules we have set for ourselves, and do not deviate from them. In terms of damage, the greatest damage was to ourselves, in that we are forced to tell ourselves that in this case we failed to stand by the norms, rules, and objectives we set for ourselves — or at least that there were some people here who could not abide by the norms we all believe in.

[Rosenblum] In other words, and taking it a step further, you mean that there is a decline in the standards?

[Arens] No, I did not say this. After all, the standards have been the same since the establishment of the state, and even before then. I think it would be too presumptuous to say that throughout Israel's existence there was no slight deviation at all from these standards. But then standards do not guarantee no deviations; they mean that most of the time nearly all the people live and act in accordance with them. This is the case in Israel today.

[Rosenblum] Are you satisfied with the way the affair was handled since it first broke out, up to today when the commission's report was made public?

[Arens] The commission headed by General Zore'a was in charge of handling the affair, and it carried out a very unpleasant and tough job. Among other things, as you know, it was necessary to exhume the bodies of the terrorists from their graves, and it was necessary to carry out a forensic examination of the bodies. This was not the only part that was unpleasant or tough. The commission did all this, I believe, in a thorough and good manner. When I entrusted Gen Zore'a with the job, I gave him no deadline, although there must have been many people in Israel who wanted the investigation to be carried out as fast as possible in order to learn the results. Yet I never pressured him. I told him: Do a thorough job, and I am prepared to wait until you complete that thorough work. He did do a thorough job.

Arens on Policy Issue

TA281659 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1605 GMT 28 May 84

[Interview with Defense Minister Moshe Arens by military correspondent Shmu'el Tal "after the publication of the Zore'a commission report" on 28 May, place not given — recorded]

[Text][Tal] Mr Arens, the Zore'a report talks about the terrorists being hit by a blunt instrument, which caused their deaths. Many people were there, and they reported this even during the investigation. Why does the Zore'a report not mention the names of those who beat the terrorists to death?

[Arens] The Zore'a report stipulates clearly, despite the fact that a great effort was made to question dozens of people — either those who were there, including those who admitted to having hit the terrorists, or people who were not actually there but heard reports from others who were there — that it was impossible to identify the people, or the individual, whose blow was the cause of death of the two terrorists.

[Tal] What will happen to the people who did participate in the beating?

[Arens] Those who were identified as having violated the law by beating the captured terrorists — in other words, a felony — will be investigated, and if warranted, one can assume they will be tried.

[Tal] Mr Arens, the report stipulates that no instructions were given that could be interpreted as meaning that the terrorists should be killed; but the question is why there were no clear-cut instructions on how to act in the case of the terrorists' capture.

[Arens] This should be a matter of routine. After all, this is not the first time we have captured terrorists, and what happened was certainly a special case, a deviation from everything that serves as a norm here, from everything that exists in writing or that has been taught.

[Tal] It was the chief of staff who gave the order prior to the operation. Do you have any indication on the extent of his responsibility?

[Arens] It was, after all, the commission that determined which people they believed bore any kind of responsibility, and it refrained from mentioning the chief of staff's name for obvious reasons. He was responsible for the operation of taking over the bus, but not anything beyond that.

[Tal] Does the fact that no instructions were handed down on what to do if the terrorists were captured not result from the fact that those who gave the instructions thought that none of the terrorists would emerge alive?

[Arens] No, not at all. As I told you, this is not the first time that terrorists have been captured, and the way to handle captured terrorists is a matter of routine. Consequently there is no need to hand down specific instructions beyond the accepted norm in the IDF.

[Tal] Why does the Zore'a report not actually talk about the responsibility of the commander at the site?

[Arens] It does mention the responsibility of all those whom the committee deemed responsible, of the commanders who were at the site.

[Tal] Does that include ministerial responsibility?

[Arens] The report does not mention ministerial responsibility, and I cannot see that there is room to talk about ministerial responsibility here, as this is a case of deviation from the norm by men who acted in contravention of the instructions, the rules, and the norms.

[Tal] Mr Arens, why did it take 2 weeks from the moment the details were more or less clear, or at least there were suspicions on the matter, before you ordered the commission of inquiry?

[Arens] The details were not clear right from the start. It took time to clarify them, and it was not an easy decision to begin carrying out an investigation. In fact, we acted in two stages: We started out with an unofficial investigation in a bid to try to determine whether there was room for an inquiry.

The moment I became convinced that there was room for an inquiry, we decided on one that would be carried out as part of the military adjudication law, and this is how the inquest was carried out.

[Tal] In this context, there have been demands that a state commission of inquiry be established, and not just a commission of inquiry appointed by the Defense Ministry. What do you think about that?

[Arens] I believe I have already told you that a thorough and good job was done here, and I cannot imagine that any other element would have done the job better. I do not think so.

[Tal] Mr Arens, what effect could this affair have on the predicament or status of the Israeli prisoners held captive by the terrorists and the Syrians?

[Arens] Theoretically it should have no effect, but naturally we can make no conclusive assessment of the terrorists' conduct. The fact remains that so far it has had no effect. After all, everyone knows that our standards and norms of behavior are totally different from theirs. This was a case of deviation from the norms, but we also took the proper measures required by such a situation.

I do not know that this is the case on the adversary's side. Yet I would like to believe and hope that this is the situation on the other side, too, and that the various PLO components holding our prisoners will do everying to guarantee the safety and well-being of our prisoners, so that we will be able to get to the exchange of prisoners which we are negotiating for at present, so that those sons can return home.

[Tal] Mr Arens, finally, let me ask you one more question on this matter: Serious phenomena were exposed here when it comes to the proper use of arms. Are you worried by these occurrences?

[Arens] This digression from the rules by which we live and fight certainly causes me concern. I cannot — rather, it is impossible to overrate the severity of the deed, but on the other hand I would not like to exaggerate and create the impression that this is more than a digression from our norms. It happened; I am convinced it will not happen again. We took all the measures requires by the fact that it happened; we will take all the necessary steps to make sure this does not happen again.

Arens on Conditions for Withdrawal From Lebanon

TA251523 Jerusaelm Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 25 May 84

[Text] Defense Minister Moshe Arens says that Israel will only withdraw from Lebanon when the inhabitants of the south cooperate and promise not to allow the terrorists to return. He says that the inhabitants of the south must realize that the IDF will not budge as long as there are attacks on the IDF soldiers there, and Israel will only withdraw when the security of the Galilee settlements is guaranteed.

Minister Arens emphasized that Israel is striving to obtain arrangements [hesderim] like those achieved by withdrawing from the Ash-Shuf area, when the local population promised not to allow the terrorists to return.

He added that he does not believe that those who call for a withdrawal from Lebanon can fail tounderstand that such a withdrawal would again endanger the Galilee settlements. He was speaking at the Engineers Club in Tel Aviv.

Further Arens' Remarks

TA251700 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1540 GMT 25 May 84

[Text] Tel Aviv, 25 May (ITIM) — Israel has no territorial or water claims to Lebanon, but the IDF will not budge from there as long as there are no arrangements [hesderim] that guarantee the security of the Galilee inhabitants, Defense Minister Moshe Arens said today in an address before the members of the Engineers Club in Tel Aviv.

The defense minister lambasted the "distress calls" in Israel which urge the withdrawal of the IDF from Lebanon. "I find it hard to believe that the people who are demanding this cannot anticipate the outcome of such a move," Professor Arens said, emphasizing that if the IDF evacuates the area, this will have a serious impact on the Galilee inhabitants. None of the people who have hurt the Galilee inhabitants have forsaken their plans, and they intend to continue carrying them out, he said.

The defense minister again announced that Israel would not jeopardize the inhabitants of the Galilee. It is necessary to reach arrangements [hesderim] like those reached in regard to the Ash-Shuf mountains. The IDF left that area after having obtained guarantees from the local population that they would not allow the terrorists to return to that area. The population of southern Lebanon should likewise realize that the IDF will not move out of there unless there is security for Israel and an end to the attacks on IDF soldiers.

The inhabitants of southern Lebanon should cooperate and make sure that terrorists will not be allowed to re-enter the area. Only then will Israel leave Lebanon.

Referring to the "Isratech-84" exhibition, Prof Arens said that the people who toured the exhibition saw for themselves the extent of the technological revolution which Israel is undergoing, turning it into one of the leading world powers in the sphere of technology. He said he too was surprised, especially by the smaller companies, numbering over 100, that exhibited their wares at "Isratech-84". These small plants, which also deal with exports, will be the ones to improve the economic situation in Israel, he said.

The defense minister recalled that various Israeli plants carrying out jobs for the IDF are benefiting from the defense budget. The Israeli defense systems are founded on the most advanced technology, and in the past few years our systems have been recognized as the best in the world. He mentioned the purchase of Israeli-made pilotless planes by the U.S. Armed Forces as an example. He added that military technological know-how is transmitted to the civilian industry as well.

Prof Arens elaborated on the significance of building the Lavi aircraft, which will be a combat aircraft of the first order and will not be known to our neighbors. He reminded the skeptics that doubts were also voiced when the Gavri'el and Kfir were being manufactured, but these two products have yielded prime interest on the original capital investment through foreign sales. He emphasized that U.S. companies share in manufacturing the Lavi.

The defense minister noted that in addition to the current technological revolution, we are also undergoing a social revolution. This eliminates the social gap, and places that were previously known as development towns are now both sources of pride to their own inhabitants, and sources of attraction to former inhabitants of Tel Aviv and Haifa. Industrial areas for advanced plants supplying employment to trained workers have been developed in these towns, among which are Migdal Ha'emeq, 'Afula, Qiryat Gat, and others.

He also pointed out that another change has taken place in the geography of the country, brought about by the settlements in Judaea and Samaria. Furthermore, the residents of the Galilee, who lived more in underground air-raid shelters than above ground, no longer fear Katyusha attacks. This has followed the Peace for Galilee operation. This change has been felt very sharply by the inhabitants of the Galilee, but has failed to make an imprint on the inhabitants of the southern part of the country.

On Al-Awwali Bridges

TA270845 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 27 May 84 p 1

[Report by Joshua Brilliant]

[Text] Tel Aviv — Defence Minister Moshe Arens said last Friday Israel will not reopen the bridges over the Al-Awwali River as long as there are attacks on IDF troops to the south.

Arens' statement at an Engineers Club luncheon here was part of his attempt to signal that attacks on Israeli forces in Lebanon will prolong their stay there. "As long as there are attacks in Lebanon we will not leave," he stated.

He maintained this stand was necessary to convince the Lebanese of the need to come to terms with Israel. Agreements with the local Shi'ite Moslem and Druse "can be reached only if the population in the south knows that we will not budge as long as there are no arrangements."

"A feeling among the population that we are out of breath, that we will run away, that the public (in Israel) will not give us time to conclude security arrangements will prevent any possibility of reaching such arrangements," Arens said.

Israel has approached some southern Lebanese leaders but they have said they are afriad to stick their necks out because they believe Israel will be leaving soon, the minister continued.

Alluding to the fact that next week will be the second anniversary of Israel's invasion of Lebanon, he said it will be "the second year in which no man, woman or child was hurt in the Gailiee."

"And the soldiers?" one woman asked.

It was not clear whether Arens heard the remark but later he said it was better to fight the battle in south Lebanon than in Galilee over children's heads.

Turning to another matter, Arens said exports of the ship-to-ship Gabriel missiles have earned Israel some $1 billion and that Israel could not have bought a plane with the Kfir's capabilities at the low price paid to the Israel-Aircraft Industries.

A study made when Menahem Begin was prime minister showed the projected Lavi fighter will not cost more than imported aircraft, he added.

Arens Departs for Meetings With U.S. Officials

TA290638 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 0620 GMT 29 May 84

[Text] Ben-Gurion Airport, 29 May (ITIM) — Defense Minister Professor Moshe Arens departed aboard an El Al plane this morning for the United States, where he will hold talks with Washington officials during the week. Prof Arens will represent the government in the traditional "Salute to Israel" parade which will be held next Sunday along New York's Fifth Avenue, and until then he will hold talks with Secretary of State George Shultz and Pentagon officials. He may possibly raise the issue of the supply of Stinger missiles to the Saudi Air Force during these talks. Prof Arens arrived directly at the plane in his car. He did not stop at the terminal, nor did he make any statements prior to his departure.

Rabin Reacts to Findings of Zore'a Commission

TA281516 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1420 GMT 28 May 84

[Interview with MK Yitzhaq Rabin by Ya'aqov Eylon following the publication of the Zore'a commission report — place not given]

[Text][Eylon] I am speaking now with MK Yitzhaq Rabin. Good day to you.

[Rabin] Good day.

[Eylon] How do you view the report?

[Rabin] First of all, I would like to express appreciation to the security establishment of the IDF, and to the inquiry commission headed by General Zore'a, which knew how to expose the facts, without trying to hide the truth even in a difficult case, severe and painful as this was. It found the truth and pointed it out.

[Eylon] And as for the findings themselves?

[Rabin] The second thing is that even when we are dealing with terrorists who attempted to murder or hurt citizens, women and children, whom we must fight by all possible methods and whose every attempt to attack us must be foiled, even then we must preserve the uniqueness of the Israeli soldier, and not kill those who fall into out hands. This is a standard of behavior which is not subscribed to by the Arabs in the area. This is a standard which we have chosen, for it expresses our ethical uniqueness, which is the backbone of our strength. We must denounce and uproot any such actions, and I have no doubt that the exposure of this thing will cause educational measures to be taken in the army and among the public. This third thing is that I have no doubt that the defense establishment will take steps to punish those responsible, and also, as I have already said, to learn all the lessons so that such things are not repeated.

[Eylon] Was this a chance incident, or do you think that there is a relaxation of our standards?

[Rabin] I would like to believe with all my heart that this is a single event which will not recur. After the fact, the security establishment, the IDF, and the educational establishment in Israel must explain that this is not the way to behave.

Shamir Tells Cabinet of Stinger Opposition

TA271048 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 27 May 84

[Text] The Cabinet session ended almost an hour ago. Our broadcasting van is near the prime minister's office in Jerusalem from where our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer brings us this report:

[Schiffer] During the Cabinet session the ministers were given a detailed report on the incident in which three IDF soldiers were killed. The chief of staff attended the Cabinet session, reported to the ministers and answered their questions in detail. There was also a political briefing at the Cabinet session, a long and detailed one, by Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir, who briefed the ministers on a letter he received several days ago from Egyptian President Husni Mubarak. In his letter, the Egyptian president repeated his country's commitment to the peace agreement it signed with Israel. This is in response to one from Yitzhaq Shamir, one he sent on the anniversary of the peace agreement between Israel and Egypt. In his letter, the Egyptian president details Egypt's positions and raises all the issues still pending between the two countries, including the matter of Tabah, the attitude toward the political solution of the Palestinian problem, and other well-known issues.

At the session, the prime minister also reviewed the Iraq-Iran war and the evaluations of analysts on this issue. Yitzhaq Shamir emphasized that for now the West is not particularly disturbed or concerned that oil tankers are being attacked in the Persian Gulf.

The Cabinet also held a discussion, and there were questions and answers on the issue of U.S. weapons sales to Saudi Arabia. The prime minister said that Israel's position is well known on the supply of Stinger missiles by the United States to Saudi Arabia. This is a proposal to which Israel is opposed.

Deputy Prime Minister David Levi asked about the refueling aircraft that Saudi Arabia is scheduled to receive from the United States. The prime minister and defense minister expressed amazement about this, saying they had not known about the U.S. intention to supply refueling aircraft, but they both promised that Israel would express its absolute opposition on this matter to the United States. Minister Ari'el Sharon attacked the United States and its intention to supply so much military equipment to Saudi Arabia. Minister Sharon said that in the past, weapons received by Saudi Arabia were found afterward in the possession of the terrorists, and he also aimed his sharp remarks against our friend, the United States.

Minister Moshe Arens reported to the ministers about his planned trip this week to the United States, and told them that he was going to meet with U.S. Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger. He said one of the main issues he would raise in his talk with Weinberger would be the matter of the Lavi plane's engine. Another matter raised by the defense minister at the session, and which was transferred to the Ministerial Committee for Economic Affairs, was his emphatic statement about the need to improve salaries for standing army personnel. This matter is now being discussed by the Ministerial Committee for Economic Affairs.

Another issue that was discussed at the session and approved in principle was the law for demobilized soldiers. This matter was approved in principle and will be submitted this very week for a first Knesset reading. Changes will be introduced in accordance with what was said by several ministers at the session. Deputy Minister Dov Shilansky, the finance minister, and the justice minister will work out this draft bill in accordance with the amendments that several ministers asked be introduced into it.

Frankel Report Cabinet Session

TA271524 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1405 GMT 27 May 84

[Political correspondent 'Oz Frankel report]

[Excerpts] It took the Egyptian president more than 2 months to respond to the congratulatory message Yitzhaq Shamir sent to Cairo on the occasion of the fifth anniversary of the peace agreement. Some people in Jerusalem viewed this fact as yet another manifestation of the cooling relations between the two countries, but it turns out that unlike its predecessor — which was of a polemic nature — this message is written in a friendly tone. Mubarak thanked Shamir for his message, and repeated his country's commitment to the peace agreement and the fostering of mutual ties. At the same time, Mubarak again mentions the well-known Cairo positions on the still unresolved issues of Tabah, the war in Lebanon, the status of Jerusalem, and more. In the Cabinet meeting today, Yitzhaq Shamir told the ministers that right now he is busy formulating a response.

In the context of the debate on the Persian Gulf crisis, the prime minister noted that neither the United States nor other Western countries needs oil from that region at all, so that there is no great concern over the eventuality that the oil flow from the Gulf area might be stopped. Another assessment voiced by the Cabinet members was that this crisis would primarily devastate the income of the Gulf emirates that produce the oil, rather than the industrialized countries.

The Cabinet heard a detailed report from the chief of staff on the incident in southern Lebanon last night, during which three IDF soldiers were killed and two others were wounded. That part of the meeting was proclaimed a session of the Ministerial Committee on Security Affairs. Further in the political sphere, the prime minister reported that an Israeli representative has been installed in the U.S. Embassy in Sri Lanka, and also pointed to the positive developments in Israeli-U.S. relations, evident last week in the statements made by Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger, who said that bilateral relations have never been better. In that context, Minister Arens reported to the ministers about his upcoming U.S. visit. Arens will meet with Secretary Weinberger this week, and their talks will focus on issues related to the Lavi aircraft engine.

Shamir: Reagan 'Circumvented' Congress on Stingers

TA291116 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 29 May 84

[Excerpt] Speaking to the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee, Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir confirmed that the U.S. President had circumvented Congress and had used his emergency powers to send 400 Stinger missiles to Saudi Arabia. Mr Shamir added that Israel has not yet received a request from the Lebanese Government to close down the Israeli representation near Beirut.

Shamir Decision on Liberals Placement on List

TA251436 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 25 May 84

[Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir has announced to Justice Minister Moshe Nisim his decision concerning the make-up of the Likud's Knesset list. The Liberals will be placed in the third, sixth, and ninth slot in each of the first four groupings, which consist of 10 places each. Between the 40th and 50th places on the list, the prime minister decided on a compromise between the stands taken by Herut and the Liberals: The Liberals will receive the 41st, 46th, 47th, and 48th slots. The Liberals have already announced that they will accept the prime minister's decision. Therefore, in the new list they will have a total of 16 MK's in the first 48 places.

Peres on Stingers, Lavi, Jewish Underground

TA271534 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1505 GMT 27 May 84

[Text] The Alignment is firmly opposed to the supply of U.S. Stinger missiles to Saudi Arabia. The Alignment stated in an announcement that Saudi Arabia is taking advantage of the situation in the Persian Gulf for massive arms purchases, which might endanger Israel in the future. In a meeting with members of the Israel Aircraft Industries workers union, MK Shim'on Peres expressed support for the development of the Lavi aircraft. According to him, the Alignment will not settle for the present development plan. If it comes to power it intends to check into the possibility of the Lavi engine being manufactured in Israel. As to the workers of the industry, Peres said that the Alignment supports lower income tax payments for workers on the second shift.

The Alignment demands that the prime minister unequivocally express his stand against the Jewish underground and those who support it. The Alignment believes that the prime minister's silence against the background of what is termed the verbal violence of ministers and top Likud members might be interpreted as an endorsement of the underground's activity.

Labor Leadership Agrees on Top Positions

TA270947 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew
27 May 84 p 1

[Arye Kinarti report]

[Text] An agreement has been reached in the Labor Party in the last few days according to which Yitzhaq Navon will be appointed acting prime minister and minister for foreign affairs, and Abba Eban will be appointed deputy prime minister and minister of information, if the Alignment forms the next government.

The *DAVAR* correspondent has learned from a reliable source that figures among the "Forum of Four" [Shim'on Peres, Yitzhaq Rabin, Yitzhaq Navon, Hayim Bar-Lev] gained the impression, from talks with Eban, that he would like "political authority" in addition to the above named duties, such as responsibility for promoting the peace process and heading the autonomy negotiations with Egypt. However, nothing has as yet been concluded on this by the Labor leadership.

It is learned that despite the fact that Shim'on Peres, theLabor candidate for prime minister, does not intend to announce an Alignment "shadow cabinet" in the near future, the likely Labor and Alignment candidate for finance minister is Gad Ya'aqobi.

A number of names have been mentioned recently in Labor leadership circles for ministerial positions in an Alignment government; for example Hayim Bar-Lev as interior minister (but not police as well), Moshe Shahal as justice minister, and Professor David Liba'i as minister for police affairs.

Regarding the Education Ministry, if and when it is held by the Alignment, as the latter hopes, two candidates have been named in this respect: MK's Ora Namir and Ya'aqov Tzur.

Peres: Navon Candidate for Foreign Minister

TA290526 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0400 GMT
29 May 84

[Text] Shim'on Peres has confirmed that Yitzhaq Navon is the candidate for the post of foreign minister if the Alignment sets up the next government. Our correspondent Amnon Nadav reports that in replying to a question at a meeting in a private home in Ashdod, Peres said that Navon is the number two man on the Alignment's list and that it is only natural that he should be designated the posts of deputy prime minister and foreign minister. Nevertheless, Peres emphasized that the Alignment does not plan to engage in the distribution of portfolios at this stage.

'Initial Details' of Alignment Platform Disclosed

TA251757 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1715 GMT
25 May 84

[Text] The following are the initial details of the political chapter of the Alignment's Knesset platform: Our party affairs correspondent Nisim Mish'al has learned that, as opposed to the previous platform, this one will not mention the principle of a territorial compromise on the Golan Heights. That term will only appear in reference to our border with Jordan.

The platform — which will be ratified next week — says that the Alignment government will try to engage in negotiations with Syria without preconditions, on the basis of UN Security Council Resolution 242. As for Judaea and Samaria, the platform states that the Alignment government will delegate broad authority in civilian spheres to local authorities in the territories. With regard to Lebanon, the Alignment platform will cite the necessity of taking action to find security arrangements [sidurey] there soon, to enable the IDF to withdraw from Lebanon.

Sharon Supporters Want Special Role in Election

TA251602 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT
25 May 84

[Text] The members of the Herut Party center who are in the Sharon camp began organizing today to protest the fact that Minister Sharon was not accorded a clearly defined role in the election campaign. At a meeting of the Herut ministers today, Minister Sharon turned down Deputy Prime Minister David Levi's proposal that he undertake special assignments in the campaign headquarters, such as organizing tours of Judaea and Samaria, handling the Arab sector, or piloting any of the other projects Sharon dealt with during the last elections. Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir has said that the crisis in the Likud is over.

Eli'av 's Knesset List Includes Ohana, Ya'aqobson

TA271122 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT
27 May 84

[Excerpt] At a news conference in Tel Aviv today Arye (Lova) Eli'av presented the first three names on his list for the 11th Knesset. The list is, of course, headed by Arye Eli'av; the second candidate is David Ohana, and the third candidate is Shela Ya'aqobson. Arye Eli'av told our correspondent Karmela Menashe that his list includes technocrats as well as activists who have accompanied him in public life, and representatives of the kibbutzim, the development towns, the Arab sector, academics, and intellectuals.

Further on Eli'av Platform

TA271309 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1255 GMT 27 May 84

[Excerpts] Tel Aviv, 27 May (ITIM) — "We want to be part of the Labor movement, and hope to be incorporated in it after the elections, since we share the desire to see the Likud removed," Lova Eli'av said at a news conference today at Bet Sokolov in Tel Aviv, in which he presented the "first trio" on his list for the 11th Knesset.

As for the basic guidelines of his platform, he said that he had already made them public about 2 years ago in the press. He quoted an article he had written then: "In the next war, which will be led by Egypt, Jordan, Syria, and Iraq will be subordinate to it, and they will enjoy resources from Saudi Arabia, the Persian Gulf amirates, Libya, and Algeria. We will win even this terrible war, but at what price! If Israel wishes to extract itself from this vicious and bloody circle, it must return to the original, Biblical concept of Israel — a small Israel, confined in territory but great in human and quality resources, an Israel which builds the Galilee and the Negev with a tremendous boost. It must also return to the concept of the original Israel figuratively, that is politically, where all the inhabitants are equal, and there is maximum security, plus a confederation that would comprise Israel, Palestine, and Jordan."

Eli'av pointed out that this was his "credo."

As to the question of why he was not included on the Labor Party's list for the 11th Knesset, he said: "About 1 month ago, Shim'on Peres told me that there is no slot allocation for me. I did not present any condition for the slot I would like, so instead he offered me some job. I do not, however, believe that the Labor Party should serve as an employment service."

Weizman List Presents First 10 Knesset Candidates

TA271841 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 27 May 84

[Text] The Yahad [Together] movement, headed by 'Ezer Weizman, this evening published the names of its first 10 Knesset candidates: 'Ezer Weizman, Binyamin Ben-Eli'ezer, Shlomo 'Amar, [former commander of the Air Force] Mordekhay Hod, Shlomo Buhbut, Muhammad (Masrawa), Miryam Laufer-Bernowitz, Paul Qedar, Mikha'el Peri, and Gad Penini.

Three IDF Soldiers Killed, Two Wounded in Lebanon

TA271121 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1000 GMT 27 May 84

[Text] Three Israeli soldiers were killed this morning and two others wounded when they were ambushed near Kamid al-Lawz in the eastern sector of Lebanon. The families of the three have been informed. More details from reported Alan Ben-'Ami:

[Ben-'Ami] The ambush was at about 0130. The soldiers were travelling in jeeps through a hilly area south of Kamid al-Lawz not far from the cease-fire line separating Israeli and Syrian troops in Lebanon's Al-Biqa' valley.

The rocket-propelled grenade and automatic weapons fire hit the jeeps as they traveled along the road just a kilometer away from the town of Kamid al-Lawz. Three soldiers were killed in the ambush, two others were wounded and were later evacuated to hospital in Haifa.

This is the second time this month that there have been casualties among Israeli soldiers in the Al-Biqa' area. Ten days ago a soldier was wounded when a roadside charge exploded. Attacks on Israelis have averaged three or four a month in the eastern sector of Lebanon. Following a spate of attacks several weeks ago Israeli artillery pounded PLO positions across the line. The area around Kamid al-Lawz, including the villages of Jubb Jannin, Ba'lul, and Lala tends to be the focus for most of the attacks. The villages are located close to the cease-fire lines, making it easier for attackers to infiltrate into the Israeli-held area, set up a roadside charge, plant a mine or attack a convoy, and then quickly try to recross into Syrian-held territory or seek shelter in one of the villages. According to military sources, while local villages are not directly involved in attacks on Israeli soldiers, they can be expected to offer support or shelter to infiltrators from across the lines.

Soldier Wounded in An-Nabatiyah

TA281333 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1329 GMT 28 May 84

[Text] An IDF soldier was wounded this afternoon in the area of An-Nabatiyah by small arms fire which was directed at an IDF convoy. The shots were fired from a local vehicle, which drove away quickly. The soldiers in the convoy returned fire. The wounded soldier was evacuated to the hospital, and the IDF forces have begun a search. This was the IDF spokesman's announcement.

Defense Source: No Change in Lebanon Policy

TA280705 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 28 May 84 p 1

[Hirsh Goodman report]

[Excerpt] "There will be no fundamental change in Israel's policies in Lebanon as a result of the tragic attack Saturday night," a senior defence source told *THE JERUSALEM POST* last night. The source added that rather than retaliate for the attack in which three soldiers were killed, Israel will continue its on-going pre-emptive policy against the terrorists, citing last week's two aerial attacks against terrorist bases.

Lebanese Officials Say Representation To Be Closed

TA261527 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 26 May 84

[Text] The Lebanese Government has decided to close down the Israeli representation situated north of Beirut. This was told to a REUTER correspondent by officials in Beirut.

They said that Prime Minister Karami had already notified Israeli officials of this decision on Thursday. They could not cite the date by which the Israelis will have to leave the representation. So far there is no confirmation of the REUTER report from any other source.

Further on Closing Representation

TA261638 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 26 May 84

[Text] Political sources in Jerusalem say that Israel has not received any demand from the Lebanese Government to close down its representation in Ad-Dubayyah north of Beirut. The sources made this statement to our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer a short time after it was reported from Beirut that Prime Minister Karami presented this demand to the Israeli representation on Thursday. The demand was reported by a REUTER correspondent, who heard it from officials in Beirut. The Lebanese officials said that so far Israel has not replied to the demand. The correspondent asked for the reaction of the Israeli representation in Ad-Dubayyah. A staff member replied that he can neither confirm nor deny that they were asked to leave.

Lubrani Denies Closing Requested

TA270516 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0400 GMT 27 May 84

[Excerpt] Israeli officials flatly deny reports from Beirut that the Lebanese Government has formally requested the closure of the Israeli mission there or that the U.S. has offered to mediate new security arrangements between Israel and Lebanon. Uri Lubrani, government coordinator for Lebanon, told reporter Alan Ben-'Ami that while there are continuous rumors about the closure of the Israeli mission, there was no official request.

Karami Trying 'To Mislead' Lebanese on South

TA251317 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 25 May 84

[Text] Uri Lubrani, the coordinator of Israel's activities in Lebanon, says that Lebanese Prime Minister Rashid Karami is tryingto mislead the citizens of his country in talking about the need to free southern Lebanon. Lubrani says he believes such declarations would not lead to the rehabilitation of Lebanon. Furthermore, he says that some Lebanese Government ministers are demanding [dorshim] that the IDF not withdraw from the south for fear that battles would erupt there, just as they did in the Beirut area.

Sources Deny Karami Announcement on U.S. Mediation

TA261629 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 26 May 84

[Text] Political sources in Jerusalem say that there is no basis to the announcements of Lebanese Prime Minister Rashid Karami that the United States has offered to mediate between Israel and Lebanon over an agreement with Lebanon. On the contrary, the political sources say that the United States has repeatedly made it clear to Lebanon that it must negotiate with Israel directly.

LIBYA

Al-Qadhdhafi Receives Black Muslim Delegation

LD290941 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0735 GMT 29 May 84

[Text] Tripoli, 29 May (JANA) — The brother commander of the revolution yesterday received an American black Muslim delegation led by Louis Farrakhan, leader of the black Nation of Islam in the United States.

Further on Visit by Turkey's Prime Minister

Minutes on Talks Signed

LD251537 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 25 May 84

[Text] The minutes of the meetings of the 11th session of the joint Libyan Arab-Turkish committee were signed in Tripoli this morning. Attending the signing ceremony were Staff Major 'Abd as-Salam Ahmad Jallud and Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal. The minutes were signed by Abu Zayd 'Umar Durdah, secretary of the General People's Committee for Agrarian Reform and Land Reclamation, and by Turkish Minister of State Ismail Ozdaglar.

The minutes provide for the development of cooperation between the two countries in various economic, technical, and cultural fields. They also provide for the exchange of trade and the possibilities of establishing new joint firms in various fields. The minutes also provide for the realization of joint cooperation in the industrial sphere in a way that secures the interests of both the Libyan Arab and the Turkish peoples.

Joint Statement Issued

LD251529 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 25 May 84

[Text] A joint Libyan Arab-Turkish statement was issued today in both Tripoli and Ankara at the end of the visit paid to the Jamahiriyah by Turgut Ozal, prime minister of the Republic of Turkey, and the accompanying delegation. Here is the text of the statement:

At the invitation of Brother Staff Major 'Abd as-Salam Ahmad Jallud, the leader of the Motherland Party and prime minister of the Republic of Turkey, Turgut Ozal, paid a formal visit to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyyah 22-25 May 1984.

During the visit Brother Turgut Ozal was received by Brother Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the Great 1 September Revolution. The Turkish prime minister conveyed to the brother leader greetings and wishes from his Brother Kenan Evren, president of the Turkish Republic, and renewed his invitation to the brother leader to visit the Turkish republic. The two sides exchanged views and ideas on means of deepening and developing cooperation between the two fraternal countries, and also on the most important issues of the region and the Islamic world and the leading international issues.

At the end of the meeting the brother leader asked the Turkish prime minister to convey his greetings and wishes to President Kenan Evren of the Turkish republic and confirm his acceptance of the invitation to visit Turkey. Official talks were held between Brother Staff Maj 'Abd as-Salam Ahmad Jallud and Brother Turgut Ozal with the participation of the two countries' delegations.

Staff Maj 'Abd as-Salam Ahmad Jallud briefed the guest on the deep radical changes accomplished in the political, economic, and social fields in the Jamahiriyyah, thanks to the revolution and in implementation of the third universal theory of the Green Book, in which the Libyan Arab people practice their authority directly through the people's conferences and the popular committees.

Brother Staff Maj 'Abd as-Salam Ahmad Jallud acquainted Brother Turgut Ozal with the leading role played by the Great 1 September Revolution in backing and supporting all liberation movements, chiefly Islamic and African liberation movements. He also acquainted him with the efforts and initiatives of the revolution for the sake of Islamic unity and dissemination of the Islamic call in various parts of the globe.

The brother guest expressed his appreciation and admiration of these changes and the achievements he saw in all fields. He hailed the distinguished and effective role of the Jamahiriyah in upholding Islam and the Muslims. Brother Turgut Ozal, the Turkish prime minister, explained the developments in various fields in the Turkish republic.

Brother Staff Maj 'Abd as-Salam Ahmad Jallud expressed his wishes for the success of the government of Brother Ozal. The two sides analyzed the most important issues and problems of the region in particular and on the international arena in general. They expressed their conviction of the need and importance of the unity and solidarity of the Islamic states. They agreed to exert joint efforts to achieve this end.

The two sides affirmed their stand by the side of the Palestinian Arab people for their liberation. They also condemned the Zionist occupation of Lebanon and declared their support for the struggle of the Lebanese Arab people for the independence and unity of all Lebanese territory.

The two sides also analyzed the world economic crisis and its negative reflections on the countries of the Third World in general. The two sides blamed the existing world economic order for this crisis.

The two sides asserted the need for the developing countries to develop cooperation directly among themselves to alleviate the pressures and negative effects on their economies and the obstacles which restrict their development efforts. The two sides expressed their eagerness to strive for the establishment of a new and just world economic order.

At the end of the meeting, minutes of agreement were signed for the development of cooperation in economic, scientific, technical, and cultural fields between the two fraternal countries.

Signed in Tripoli on 25 May 1984.

Prime Minister Ends Visit

LD251513 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 25 May 84

[Excerpt] Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal and the delegation accompanying him left Tripoli this morning at the end of a visit to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahirayah. The visit came within the framework of relations of cooperation which exist between the Libyan Arab people and the Turkish people. Brother Staff Major 'Abd as-Salam Ahmad Jallud was at the head of those who saw off Brother Turgut Ozal and the accompanying delegation at Tripoli International Airport.

Sources Say Ambassador to Tunisia Recalled

NC271855 Paris AFP in English 1605 GMT 27 May 84

[Text] Tunis, May 27 (AFP) — The Libyan ambassador to Tunisia, Jum'a Fezani, was recalled at the end of last week by the authorities in Tripoli, Aab diplomatic sources said here today. The Libyan authorities told the Tunisian Government that Mr Fezani was recalled because the ambassador had completed the term of his mission, the sources said. Relations between the two North African neighbours have deteriorated recently and the Tunisian ambassador to Libya was recalled on May 16. However the fact that the move has not yet been officially announced in either Tunis or Tripoli suggested there had been no new increase in tension, in the view of diplomatic observers. Relations worsened following Libyan suggestions of Tunisian involvement in the May 8 commando attack close to the Tripoli barracks where Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi lives. The tension abated considerably with a Libyan promise to free three Tunisian national guards detained at the Tunisian-Libyan border on May 8. The three are still being held.

Muslim Brotherhood Member Arrested 25 May

NC260543 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 26 May 84

[Text] The masses of the Basic People's Congress yesterday evening stormed the den of traitor terrorist 'Uthman 'Ali Jarsi, a stray dog of the Muslim Brotherhood organization gang, agents of the United States. Based on the decision issued by the congress at its emergency session last night, the congress masses stormed the traitor agent's den, captured him, and blew up his den. The congress masses affirmed their solid determination to relentlessly hunt down all traitors, agents, and hirelings and liquidate them physically, wherever they may be. The masses said that the stray dogs, members of the Muslim Brotherhood gang, the agents of the United States, will not escape the people's punishment and will face the same fate.

'Suicide Commandos' To Destroy Camps in Sudan

LD281842 Tripoli JANA in English 1736 GMT 28 May 84

[Text] Tripoli, 28 Shaaban, 28 May, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — *AZ-ZAHF AL-AKHDAR* newspaper, published by the revolutionary committees,has confirmed that due to the obsession of Numayri about establishing terrorist camps for anti-Libyan Arab people elements led the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, men, women, old people, and children, towards gathering inside People's Congresses in emergency and extraordinary sessions and taking very important decisions in defense of their revolution and authority. The paper says in a leading article today under heading "The Offence Will Begin" that this criminal and terrorist act carried out by hireling Numayri under American, British, and Zionist direction, has led the Basic People's Congresses towards preparations of capabilities and readiness to form suicide commandos and move to the Sudan to destroy, explode, and burn all terrorist training camps in Mandera and others in the Sudanese territories and rid the Sudanese chained jamahir who suffer from starvation and poverty of the collapsing rule of tyrant Numayri.

AZ-ZAHF AL-AKHDAR added: These suicide commando operations and this battle that the Libyan Arabs will fight inside Sudan is not aimed against the heroic Sudanese people who brought the downfall of the first about and will bring the downfall of the second. The brotherly Sudanese people ought to open the way to these suicide revolution commandos of the Libyan Arabs to enable them to reach their enemies, fugitives of justice, to liquidate them and punish them for the immoral and inhuman crimes they committed against their people and the future of their country.

It went on: The infiltration of terrorists to the Jamahiriyah by agents of America and the disclosure of their plans aimed at destroying the civilized achievements accomplished by the revolution, and the assassination of a number of Libyan Arab citizens and secretaries of People's Congresses and People's Committees as well as foreigners working in the Jamahiriyah, together with the confessions of terrorist detainees confirming the involvement of Numayri's regime, led the Libyan Arabs to prepare themselves, assign duties and be ready to go to Sudan in consecutive groups to revenge their enemies and destroy their terrorist camps which are being supported and protected by international imperialism and its agents.

Now, and after the Arab reactionary exaggerated in its hostility to the Jamahiriyah's revolution in Libya, exporting terrorism to the Libyan Arab people for humiliation and after it came to the support of the traitors and gave them facilities openly and deliberately relying on stray dogs and on skills of their imperialist masters who offer them support and means of terrorism after all these evil and devilish crimes and practices, it has become an urgent and compelling matter to point out the need for destroying all terrorist camps for training on killing in Sudan and elsewhere as a retaliatory revenge and as a counter attack to the reactionary and imperialist abovementioned attack. This will liberate Sudan and will enable us to defeat forces of aggression, exploitation, hegemony, and international terrorism which are antagonistic to freedom, justice, progress, and revolution.

AZ-ZAHF AL-AKHDAR confirmed that the Great Al-Fatih Revolution which incited the fire of holy hatred against reactionaries, imperialists and terrorists for the last fifteen years will not accept the return of the Libyan Arab again to chains, shackles and foreign bases and multinational companies and false parliamentary representative councils. It said that the fire of hatred will not cease till the Libyan Arabs see terrorism camps in Sudan and other reactionary countries which adopt and support these terrorists are totally burnt after these countries have been transformed into imperialist and Zionist protectorates and colonies and retreats against progress, freedom, and humanity.

The paper added that if any reactionary or imperialist country continues in supporting and adopting these terrorist cliques who oppose the Libyan Arab people's choices, represented in training them on killing and destructions as the Sudan did and other reactionary countries when their dogs which bark but do not bite, during last weeks it has to learn that the revolutionary committees as an international force has its weight and influence on international scale and has the abilities to repel and avenge which these reactionary and imperialist countries witnessed many times before and the capabilities, again, to transfer the battle inside these countries, extend its circles and aggravate its wounds.

The paper said: All these issues, which are numerous, force the revolutionary committees and Libyan Arab masses to ally themselves with all forces hostile to reactionary, imperialism and capitalism, to the forefront of these forces are the Sudanese revolutionaries and liberals, to ally themselves with all forces hostile to imperialism and capitalism in America and to ally with and strongly support materially and morally the Irish Republic Army, opposing the racialist English. If America, Britain, and their stooges, based on their strong hostility to the Arab people in Libya, decided to embrace agents of imperialism and its followers, enemies of the Arab people in Libya and did not open the way to Libyan Arabs who want to liquidate their enemies destroy their terrorist camps in those countries and if they refrain from handing over those terrorists, they would then have decided to bear the consequences of that decision.

The paper confirmed that the movement of revolutionary Jamahirya is the top level revolutionary, literary and scientific innovation the revolutionary committee which believes in the freedom of people and works towards breaking their chains and shackles and [word indistinct] its readiness to defend it anywhere in the world and fights terrorism wherever it is and chose its fugitives so as not to come back again and threaten humanity with destruction and inhibition. [sentence as received]

They concluded by saying that the only solution left to these countries is escape from the predicament and trap they were in way to open its borders, ports, airports, and hotels in face of Libyan Arabs to liquidate their enemies there confirming that the reactionaries and imperialists would receive the outcome of what they have planted and wait for the burning of terrorism camps in Sudan and others. [sentence as received]

Existence of Training Camps Revealed

LD281925 Tripoli JANA in English 1832 GMT 28 May 84

[Text] Tripoli, Shaaban 28, May 28, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — Terrorists belonging to the Muslim Brotherhood who are arrested have revealed dangerous confessions related to Khartoum government role in sheltering terrorism, preparing for it and directing it against Libyan Arab people. The terrorists gave complete and precise information on the training camps and training instructors in Sudan. In their confessions they showed that General 'Umar Muhammad at-Tayyib was supervising in person the process of training them in these camps and dictated to them instructions issued by Numayri related to the implementation of sabotage and assassination operations in Jamahirya.

MOROCCO

KUNA Reports Cabinet To Be Reshuffled

LD281402 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1342 GMT 28 May 84

[Text] Rabat, 28 May (KUNA) — KUNA's correspondent in Rabat has learned that a cabinet reshuffle will take place in the government of Mr Mohamed Karim Lamrani, which includes a national coalition of the six major parties in Morocco. Reliable sources told KUNA's correspondent that the reshuffle, which is the first since the formation of the current government last year, will include principal ministries, among which are the Ministry of Interior and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The Moroccan monarch has commissioned the government of Mr Karim Lamrani to prepare for the legislative elections which will take place next 15 September and to deal with the economic crisis. The current cabinet includes the leaders of the parties as ministers of state.

SUDAN

Text of Numayri 15th Anniversary Speech

JN251313 Khartoum SUNA in English 0900 GMT 25 May 84

[Text] Khartoum, 25 May (SUNA) — Here below is the official full text of the address by His Excellency Ja'far Muhammad Numayri, president of the Democratic Republic of the Sudan, on fifteenth anniversary of the 25th May revolution.

In the name of Allah, the compassionate, the merciful (those that deny Allah and His apostles, and those that draw a line between Allah and His apostles, saying: We believe in some, but deny others, — this seeking a middle way — these indeed are the unbelievers. For the unbelievers we have prepared a shameful punishment. As for those that believe in Allah and His apostles and discriminate against none of them, they shall be rewarded by Allah. He is forgiving and merciful).

Dear compatriots: Greetings in the spirit of your glorious revolution of May the twenty-fifth and may it forever remain victorious.

Praise to almighty God who has blessed our efforts to achieve what we have always been striving for and for having attained what we have struggled to realize. Our will has not faltered, nor has our determination wavered over the past fifteen years. Our country has grown in stature through the glorious achievements of our countrymen, be it stability, development or unity. These and others have been the crowning glory of our people and our revolution.

It was achieved chapter after chapter of progress. We had overcome many pitfalls, obstacles, and conspiracies for this revolution to emerge defiantly glorious and forever victorious. It may be a short span in the history of nations, but for the Sudan it has been a legendary change that has transformed both motherland and peoples. It has merged both past and present and fused our present endeavour with our future needs. Endowed with a harmonious rhythm, our revolution remains forever mindful of its roots and its principles, ever faithful of its ultimate goals, we shall steadfastly uphold, defend, and cherish these so that the Sudan shall remain gloriously united. What has been achieved falls far short of what this country can offer. That oneness of sentiment and loyalty and common heritage shall for ever be a source of splendour and glory in hours of danger and darkness. The call for national unity was truly [words indistinct] when our country was in mortal peril.

It is this joint awareness that clearly demonstrates that development is common to all, be it a trans-continental road [word indistinct] Khartoum as well as Malakal, Fashir as well Torit, Kassala as well as Rumbek. It is reflected in one common conviction that Kenana and Rahad are a source of plenty for Halfa as well as Juba, that our splendid communication network has exceeded the aspirations of other poor countries and superseded the vast potentialities of the rich. Other equally impressive attainments stem from our belief that to be truly bountiful, this revolution must be accessible to all. It is through valour, dedication, and steadfastness that national unity has vanquished dissent, division, sectarianism, and partisanship. It has done away with ethnic, cultural, and spiritual discriminations and reaffirmed loyalty to God and country. Forever true to its convictions, your revolution has withstood tremendous pressures and foiled evil conspiracies, so that the declaration of June 9th, 1969,should usher in an era of peace, unity, and regionalism to the south and later to the whole country.

By pledging itself to promoting democracy since its earliest declarations, your revolution has faithfully adhered to that pledge throughout. It has brought about a political organization that truly reflects the national will, where difference of opinion is tolerated, freedom of expression maintained, and the minority view point given due consideration. This pledge has been firmly enshrined in the country's Constitution, the ultimate arbiter and the guiding light for mass and revolution movement towards more achievement. Inspired by our inherent temperament and heritage, this nation has opted for the Islamic way of life. This has not been imposed by any sect nor has it been promoted by any one group. It is the outcome of the quest for the roots of our national heritage, temperament, and genius. It is our ready response to a persistent popular will.

Dear compatriots:

Our motto for the present anniversary of the Revolution is intended — as on previous occasions to single certain aspects of our endeavour. Through Islamic and for the Sudan is a clarion call which is genuine, true and sincere. [sentence as received] It is a guiding line of action which has inspired this revolution and its vanguard in the struggle against dissent and disunity so that unity and harmony may prevail. Islam is a pledge for unity and peace. It is a bulwark against godlessness and communist homogeneity. a platform for collective participation under constitutional rule.

It has been instrumental in promoting wider participation in local government, thus urging greater and better service against thirst and hunger. Education has come to be recognized as a right, labour as a national duty, production as a vital tool for self-sufficiency so that wide social justice may prevail. The pledge by Islam and for this country has presented a formidable front that has thwarted the racial attack of September, the attempted Libyan invasion in July and the abortive air raid of March, 1984. Our dedication to Arab solidarity, African harmony through peaceful dialogue has been reinformed by this firm belief which is aligned to right and to justice as Islam has always been. By evoking its national heritage, the Sudan is being true to itself, worthy of its past glories and mindful of its unity. The May revolution has constantly upheld religious faith as an institution for unity, accord, and personal conviction. Islam is part of humanity's spiritual heritage, complimentary to other divinely inspired religions to which a true Muslim must readily acquiesce.

It is in that spirit that secular laws have been reviewed in the light of Koranic laws and the purity of Islamic tradition, so that a just, righteous way of life may be defined for this world and the hereafter. The first term of the presidency has vanguished atheistic Marxism through the powers of our faith which has been better expounded and more purposefully preached during the second term of that presidency. It was for the third presidency to give shape and meaning by opting for a definite path. It is for the leadership to set the example along that path so that its faithful followers may strive for righteousness and equity. Such a pledge needs courage and perseverance so that distinctive characteristics, be they ethnic, cultural, or spiritual, shall be recognized and accommodated. Such courage, with tolerance, shall willingly surrender the ultimate decision to rest with the popular will wherein lies true leadership. Islam promotes an ever-expanding platform for popular participation [words indistinct].

The essence of Islam is toleration, moderation, a plea for closer affinity between peoples irrespective of tribe or race. It is a faith where deeds speak loudest and where the ultimate judgment for intentions rest with the almighty. Man can only judge that which is visibly material and tangibly incriminating. It is not for him to be swayed by conjecture, doubt or suspicion without proof. May revolution has always been as keen to protect and respect the beliefs, freedoms, rights, and aspirations of Muslims as well as non-muslims. It is for the state to cherish and jealously defend these brith given rights. Spiritual faith is pre-ordained by the almighty and rests within his infimite mercy. For us, Islam is justice, unity, co-operation, brotherhood, and equity amongst all without distinction or discrimination. Both the people's popular government and national system of administration are measures for wider participation by popular authority, for better utilization of our natural resources, higher productivity, and more equitable distribution.

Imbued with that spirit, the revolution has hence legislated, brought forth its creative talent, and withstood the machinations of regional as well as international subversion. Blessed with that spirit, this revolution may reflect the many faces of the splendour of Islam and embody its true essence. It is to generate wider deliberations, to raise the banners of justice, sufficiency, equality, renovation, moderization, and affinity with scientific advancement. May revolution has pledged itself to a way of life that it had long preached and later enunciated in its subsequent programmes of action which have consistently been endorsed by the Sudan Socialist Union. It has thus become a firm committee and a binding obligation which the Revolution intends to shoulder and fulfill by the will and the grace of the almighty.

Dear compatriots:

The application of an Islamic way of life is not merely to restrain by prescribed form of punishment, nor is it to forbid what is blameworthy nor merely preach what is commendable.

It is an arduous task to refrain from incriminating on mere suspicion, to base a charge on solid proof, not to draw conclusion on mere conjecture and not to prejudge. We are advised not to publicize others' shortcomings but to shroud them by discretion. Nor should we obstruct the path to forgiveness may overtake sin. [sentence as received] The Koran forbids spying upon others and running others down and urges the avoidance of misgivings since they can be unjust.

Islam promotes charitable manners by prohibiting intrusion into others' homes without observing common courtesies of asking permission for peaceful entry. Others should not be condemned by unverified suspicion, but unreliable sources should be discarded. Charitable allowance should made for the old and the disabled. Since faith is a form of security, there should be neither persecution nor intimidation, nor punishment without a clearly enunciated text of law. Guilt can not be admitted without proof nor prosecution initiated on mere suspicion. An Islamic way of life strives to dry the sources of evil by promoting chastity and the honest acquisition of decent livelihood, inducing greater devotion to the service of justice, righteousness away from wrongdoings and covetousness. The struggle against the accumulated weight of ancient habits and the struggle to dredge the passage free of old prejudice is a monumental task to enlighten the living and inspire future generations. Although definitively codified and governed by unambigious legislation, an Islamic way is better applied through setting a good example first and foremost.

It calls for sobreity and moderation, a smooth passage for life, for progress, knowledge, motherland, and national unity. These characterize Islam and are best generated by Islam, which is in turn imbued by the values enshrined in other divinely inspired religions. Such is the message of Islam and this is the spirit that permeates our Constitution so that our experiment with regionalism should reflect our recognition of the distinctive characteristics that underline our respect for the prevailing belief in each region of this cherished motherland.

Dear compatriots: Fifteen years of revolutionary endeavour give us much to reflect upon. We have had to face up to successive phases of achievement, hardships and challenging battles. We have not only now these but have acquired the abilities for steadfastness, faith and courage. Stability coupled with progress has been acclaimed by friend and foe alike. Remarkable achievements have been undertaken in the face of brutal treachery, starvation,subversion and corruption. A scanty few have been led astray, but the Sudan shines pure in a sea of darkness.

Constantly reviewing its passage, your revolution may revise and reconsider without ever losing sight of its ultimate aims or forsaking its principles. Subjected to incessant harassment, this revolution has foiled wars of attrition, economic blockade, encirclement and naked aggression. Since its very inception, this revolution was to be later contained then brayed by communist treachery. Sectarianism and partisanship were reactivated so that our unity was to be undermined. In the south, it was national cohesion that proved impregnable.

Dear friends, our country faces grave, very grave, dangers. Strategically poised and ideologically placed, we form the dividing line between communist expansionism from Ethiopia into the rest of Africa. We stand against Soviet incursions into the Red Sea. We are poised to defend the free flow of the Nile waters as a life line from its very sources to the Mediterranean. I wish to reaffirm that we are committed, and will continue to be committed to peaceful negotiations and thus protect our country against foreign intervention. Dialogue can resolve any dispute however intractable.

Let me recall that regionalism has been a popular demand voiced in the south. I have merely acceded to that persistent demand,but wish to categorically state that policy is subject to review, provided that wish is the outcome of peaceful dialogue between Sudanese. No preconditions will govern such discussions except that the unity of the Sudan shall be respected and maintained.

We may wish to recall that the Addis Ababa agreement does explicitly recognize ethnic and cultural diversity. Subsequent policies of regionalism are the outcome of this as well as other principles such as promoting wider popular participation as well as handing power to the people. Addis Ababa agreement should therefore be viewed, not merely in regional terms but as a happy medium for a national policy which we have adopted for the whole of Sudan. We are fully conscious of the vindictive and long drawn-out war that international communism has in mind. The abortive coup of July 17, the expulsion of Soviet presence from both the Sudan and Somalia will remain forever sour, but this country will constitute the first line of defence against Soviet infiltration into Africa, the Red Sea and the Nile Valley. It is consequently no coincidence that Marxism is the banner for mutineers in the south and that Soviet arms, Libyan support and Ethiopian training camps provide the passageway for attacks upon development projects in the south.

Islamic legislation, we are told, is the justification for this communistic subversion, yet we know that it predates this legislation. We are also told that through dividing the southern region we have provided yet another cause for unrest, yet it is am established fact that subversion preceded the very idea of regionalization. Another pretext is the paradoxical claim that oil wealth should be confined to the south, whereas it is a well known fact that all the country's resources are at the disposal of the south.

Dear compatriots: Our country has been destined to be a flash point for international conflict at the present juncture. Despite our potentialities we face a crucial choice and live a time of difficult and vital decisions: To stand by our principles of non alignment or take sides and face grave conseuqnces. We prefer to live up to these principles and rely on own resources, courage and valour in defence of our sovereignty and national unity. The Sudan has been the target for concerted subversion over the last few months emanating from both outside and inside. Our major development projects, Omdurman, strike action, economic stagnation and smuggling, psychological warfare and adverse publicity, hit and run tactics by mercenaries as well as rumour-mongering, are part of a large scale conspiracy. Doubts have been cast at this revolution, at its history, and its achievement with a concerted strategy to bleed these to death.

Hence the state of emergency. It has not been declared as some would have you believe or some hasty and misguided application may lead you to conclude. It would be fanciful to expect a pure and good society to emerge in months or even years.

Such a society calls for personal commitment, a conviction not compulsion, wise guidance and good upbringing with father and family setting the example.

It is not for me after fifteen years, dear friends, to elabroate on what we have done or set out to do. It is reassuring that thousands of young men and women have been enrolled in schools, institutes, universities, both new and old. Tens of thousands have been trained and thus qualified neighbouring countries. [sentence as received] New sources of abundant wealth have been discovered through industrial enterprises, mining, oil exploration, infrastructure, a rising standard of living, aspiration for a better quality of life. Decentralized and regional institutions have now taken root with wider popular participation. Ready to stand by neighbour and friend, we shall pursue a policy of integration and interdependence, of peace and co-operation, both regionally and internationall. Dear compatriots: It remains for me to address a few words to you, women and youth of the Sudan, the harbingers of the future, the incarnation of our unity and sovereignty.

It is for you to carry the banner and affirm that this revolution, for the Sudan and through Islam, will devise a system of justice and a new way of life, dynamic, just and plentiful. A truly Muslim society will shun the practices of usury, exploitation, and be ever mindful of responsibilities towards work, home and fellow citizens. What we should strive for is a truly good society of knowledge, work, production, initiative, charity and courage. We should remember that ours is an experiment wrought with dangers. It could, like a spark, give warmth and life. It could, equally, generate misunderstanding, ill feeling and fantical extremism. We should not allow Islam to degenerate into a war of slogan wavers of terrorism, persecution, or profiteering. Ours is a free expression of our temperament and shall only thrive through free consent, choice and conviction. It shall thus stay an end, not a means. I would finally like to voice our welcome and faith in you as torch carriers for the future for the Sudan, for the revolution, for our country's sovereignty, unity and prosperity. May God be with you all.

Numayri Orders Resumption of Work on Pipeline

JN282042 Khartoum SUNA in English 1706 GMT 28 May 84

[Text] Khartoum May 28 (SUNA) — President Numayri today said that he has ordered resumption of work in building the pipeline designed to bring the oil [words indistinct]. The president said that security is reigning over the whole country and that the operations of constructing the pipeline [words indistinct]. The conclusive decision on the fate of the companies will be taken after the return of energy minister from the U.S. after two weeks, he said. On the other hand Energy and Mining Minister Ash-Sharif at-Tuhami told SUNA that the security situation in the country is quite stable. "We think that companies should resume work in the field of oil prospection and constructing of oil pipeline as quickly as possible," he said. At-Tuhami left here today afternoon for San Francisco to discuss resumption of the work with officials in the Standard Oil of California, the mother of Chevron Co. of Sudan carrying oil prospection in Sudan.

ETHIOPIA

Addis Ababa Denies 25 May Bombing of Somalia

EA261917 Addis Ababa Domestic Service In Amharic 1700 GMT 26 May 84

[Text] The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has stated that Socialist Ethiopia is not involved in any way in the Mogadishu regime's allegation that Somali cities have been bombed.

In a statement on the issue, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs said the Mogadishu regime, which is still following an expansionist policy, is fabricating and disseminating false claims about being a victim of external aggression.

The Foreign Ministry statement affirmed that the main objective of this allegation was on the one hand to mislead world public opinion, and on the other hand to obtain additional modern weapons as aid.

Attack Claim 'Absurd Allegation'

NC261621 Paris AFP in English 1608 GMT 26 May 84

[Text] Addis Ababa, May 26 (AFP) — Ethiopia today categorically denied Somali accusations that its aircraft bombed two Somali cities yesterday, killing six people.

"The absurd allegation is calculated to mislead international opinion on the one hand, and to solicit further military assistance in the form of additional sophisticated military hardware on the other," the Ethiopian Foreign Ministry said in a statement.

It added that the regime in Somalia, which itself "obstinately" pursued aggressive policies of expansionism, "is still spreading pre-fabricated stories of being an object of external aggression".

The Somali Defence Ministry announced yesterday that four Ethiopian MIG-23's attacked Baidoa, 250 KM (150 miles) west of Mogadishu, killing four children and causing extensive damage.

Earlier the same day, Radio Mogadishu had reported the bombing by Ethiopian aircraft of the Abudwak District, about 500 kms (300 miles) north of the Somali capital, in which two people were killed.

KENYA

Soviet Trade Delegation Arrives for Trade Talks

EA252023 Nairobi KNA in English 1540 GMT 25 May 84

[Text] Nairobi, 25 May (KNA) — A 5-Man delegation from Russia arrived today at Jomo Kenyatta Airport to start a two-week consultation bilateral trade talks with the Government of Kenya. The delegation was received by the Russian ambassador to Kenya, Dr Alexander Chikvaidze [name and title as received], officials of ministries of foreign affairs, commerce and industry and finance and planning.

The leader of the delegation, Mr G. Kuznetsov, said that during their visit to Kenya the delegation, which comprises top Russian officials in the Ministry of Health, and [the] State Committee for Economic Relations with Foreign Affairs, will hold talks with ministries of finance and planning, commerce and industry, energy and regional development, works housing and physical planning, health and trade organizations.

Mr Kuznetsov noted that the highlight of the talks will be the discussion of bilateral trade cooperation existing between the two countries in view of starting more joint ventures in both technical assistance and trade relations.

Mr Kuznetzov is the head of African Department in the Russian State Committee for Economic Relations with Foreign Affairs.

SOMALIA

Ethiopian Air Raid on Galcaio Reported

SDR Statement Issued

EA281201 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1125 GMT 28 May 84

[Text] A statement released today by the Somali Democratic Republic [SDR] Ministry of Defense says that two Abyssinian MIG-21 fighter aircraft attacked Galcaio, the capital of Mudug Region at 0855 today. The statement adds that the SDR Air Defense Forces engaged the enemy aircraft. No damage was caused by the enemy air raid.

Two MIG-21 Attacked City

NC281423 Paris AFP in English 1408 GMT 28 May 84

[Text] Nairobi, May 28 (AFP) — Somalia today reported a further Ethiopian air raid on its territory.

According to radio Mogadishu, monitored here, two MIG-21 planes today attacked the town of Galcaio, capital of the northern Mudug region.

The attack was repulsed by Somali anti-aircraft forces, the radio said. It did not indicate if there had been any casualties.

Last week the Somali Defence Ministry reported two Ethiopian attacks, at Baidoa and Abudwak, respectively west and north of Mogadishu, which left six dead. Ethiopia denied involvement in those attacks, describing the Somali accusations as "absurd".

Somalia and Ethiopia are traditional enemies in what has come to be known as the Horn of Africa conflict.

Eritrean Liberation Forces Successes Reported

JN281044 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0948 GMT 28 May 84

[Text] Baghdad, 28 May (INA) — A military communique was issued by the Eritrean Liberation Front's popular liberation forces:

The Revolutionary Committee has stated that its units on Axis No 79 in the Anderley area near (Mansurah) killed four Ethiopian soldiers and captured a number of weapons. The communique added that units of the popular liberation forces laid an ambush for the Ethiopian regime's forces in the (?Ara Unne) area inside Ethiopian borders near the city of (Hamra), inflicting immense losses in men and equipment, and capturing a number of men.

DFSS Division Reports Expansion of Forces

EA282017 (Clandestine) Radio Halgan in Somali to Somalia 1800 GMT 28 May 84

[Text] Reports reaching us from the 15th Gorod Division of the DFSS [Democratic Front for the Salvation of Somalia] wing of the Somali opposition forces, say that civilians and soldiers of various ranks have streamed into bases of the fighters of the 15th Gorod Division.

The report adds that in the past 3 days 500 people, including students, workers, and many armed civilians, have poured into the bases of the Gorod Division.

Last night, that is, 28 May, 50 armed soldiers formerly belonging to the Somali Armed Forces flocked into the bases of the 15th Gorod Division.

All these people who have come to beef up the armed struggle say they have come to fully participate in the war to save Somalia's dignity and sovereignty.

Starvation, Economic Collapse Await Nation

EA262329 (Clandestine) Radio Halgan in Somali to Somalia 1800 GMT 26 May 84

[Text] Reports reaching us from the capital, Mogadishu, say the country is facing total starvation and economic collapse.

The reports add that in the coming months, no food is expected to be delivered, as nothing has been ordered for the country. Tension is rising throughout Somalia because of food shortages, and the country's economy has reached its lowest level ever. Somalia's citzens are asking each other what is happening in the country, because the food shortage and the economic collapse seem to have spread to all the regions of the country.

Reports reaching us from Mogadishu say the loyalist troops of Muhammad Siad Barre regime are pillaging and unleashing savage looting on civlian shops and stores in Mogadishu. He soldiers are taking the food "on loan," saying that they will replace the food as theirs is on the high seas and will soon arrive. Confirmed sources say that no food is on the way to Siad's loyalist forces, and these steps are just ways of cheating the general public. Other reports originating from Mogadishu say that several ships carried food out of the port after the regime failed to raise the foreign currency to buy the food. The ships refused to discharge their cargo since the regime has not paid for earlier food consignments delivered for payment at a later date.

TANZANIA

Cuba's Malmierca Arrives on Official Visit

EA261458 Dar es Salaam External Service in English 0400 GMT 26 May 84

[Text] President Nyerere has received a message of solidarity and friendship from President Fidel Castro of Cuba. The message was delivered by Cuban Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca, who called on Mwalimu at his Msasani residence in Dar es Salaam yesterday. The Cuban foreign minister arrived in Dar es Salaam on Thursday for a 3-day official visit to Tanzania.

President Nyerere and the Cuban minister then held discussions lasting for 1 and ½ hours focusing on international issues, including the liberation of southern Africa, the Nonaligned Movement, and the events in Latin America. Ndugu Isidoro praised the outcome of the frontline states summit in Arusha last month, and said it was a big blow to the enemies of the liberation struggle in southern Africa. Mwalimu, who is the chairman of the frontline states, told Ndugu Isidoro that the Arusha summit reaffirmed the solidarity of the frontline states and the solid commitments of these countries in the struggle for the liberation of the continent.

Cooperation Communique Issued

EA271521 Dar es Salaam External Service in English 1300 GMT 27 May 84

[Text] Dar es Salaam: Tanzania and Cuba have reaffirmed their desire to strengthen political, economic, scientific, technical, and cultural cooperation for the benefit of their people.

A communique issued in Dar es Salaam today after a 3-day official visit by the Cuban foreign minister, Ndugu Isidoro Malmierca, said the two countries were satisfied with their bilateral relations. It said Ndugu Malmierca and his Tanzanian counterpart, Ndugu Benjamin Mkapa, briefed each other on the situation in their countries and placed special emphasis on further development of the bilateral relations.

The communique said the ministers emphasized the need for African countries and progressive forces in the world to lend effective assistance to liberation movements in Namibia and South Africa for independence and elimination of apartheid. They once again rejected all attempts to link the Namibian independence issue to the withdrawal of Cuban forces from Angola. It said the Cuban foreign minister reiterated his country's support for the frontline states as well as liberation movements in the region.

On the Western Sahara, the ministers supported the people of Sahara under the Polisario for self-determination and independence, and expressed serious concern over the deteriorating situation in the former Spanish colony.

UGANDA

Obote Supports OAU East African Cooperation

EA252001 Kampala Domestic Service in English
0950 GMT 25 May 84

[Address by President Milton Obote at Makerere University — live]

[Excerpts] Uganda today is at peace with all her neighbors. I can also say that Uganda is not in conflict today with any country in Africa. There was a time when a few OAU member states violated or sought to violate the OAU principle insofar as Uganda was concerned of noninterference in the internal affairs of states. We have been given undertakings by such states, that their past actions were mistakes and that such activities would not continue. The Government of Uganda believes in its words. When we give an undertaking to an African state, we try as hard as possible to abide by such undertakings. We also would want to believe that the undertakings by other OAU member states toward us would be adhered to and carried out to the full. African states have the same security problems. The difference is only in degree, but not the nature of the problems.

Uganda under the present government is a dedicated member of the OAU, and is not and will not entertain any idea of destabilizing any of Uganda's neighbors. In the same way, we will not, either on our own or in association with others in Africa and elsewhere, interfere in the internal affairs of OAU member states. Instead, Uganda will be in the forefront in the promotion of projects and ideas that strengthen the OAU and strengthen individual member states.

The future of East Africa does rest with the resolution of the problems pertaining to the division of the assets and liabilities. The future depands on the political will of the leaders, based on the desire and acceptance of the people of Uganda. Tanzania and Kenya to come together to cooperate for their own development and thereby liberate themselves from the scourage of poverty. I pledge that the Republic of Uganda is ready and eager to once more rededicate herself as a committed partner in future East African regional cooperation. [applause]

Uganda remains firm and stands firm behind the people of Namibia and the people of South Africa. Within Uganda's limitations, and to the fullest extent, we will render to SWAPO and the liberation movements of South Africa whatever resources we are able to mobilize.

Obote Addresses Rally on Anniversary of His Return

EA281232 Kampala Domestic Service in English
0700 GMT 28 May 84

[Excerpt] President Obote has urged Ugandans to rally behind the UPC [Uganda Peoples Congress] because it is the only party that fought to uproot the regime of murder and terror. Addressing a mammoth rally to celebrate the fourth anniversary of his return from exile, Dr Obote said that the UPC is in politics to improve the lot of Ugandans without discrimination. The president told a jubiliant crowd to tackle all their opponents with confidence, knowing that it is only the UPC which fought to re-establish freedom so that the people can decide for themselves which government to administer the country through the ballot.

Dr Obote called for support for the UPC, because, he said, the UPC means business and can do everything to make the Pearl of Africa rise and shine again.

The president ruled out the replacement of the UPC with any other party, or bringing in ex-presidents Lule or Binaisa as an issue in the current Uganda politics. He advised self-styled exiles who talk of power without ideas to come back home to face the people and seek their votes. He said power rests with the people of Uganda, adding that according to the Constitution of the country, the president must be elected by the people.

Dr Obote also rejected power-hungry self-seekers who do not want to approach them, adding that there is nobody appointed by holy scripture to rule the people of Uganda. The president said the people of Uganda want peace and stability and not gangsters who go about shooting people in Luwero.

Dr Obote informed the nation of some people in positions of leadership who have taken to boycotting national celebrations, saying that they are UPC celebrations. He said the same leaders had taken to the streets in 1979 saying: no Lule, no work. He wondered whether these same people are not working now.

The president assured the nation that Uganda will not stop progressing, and that life would continue to improve everywhere despite boycotts of national ceremonies by some leaders.

Dr Obote said that no single leader in Uganda had the monopoly of wisdom, and invited all Ugandans in positions of leadership to come forward with ideas on how mistakes in society should be corrected. He declared that the UPC does not fear ideas, although other parties fear UPC ideas.

The president ruled out possibilities of holding another Moshi conference, because it would disregard the views of the people of Uganda. He said that Moshi liberators came to Uganda in 1979 without a single idea about liberation. They knew only about magendo [smuggling, corruption].

Dr Obote cited the Muthaiga discussion group, which disappeared immediately after its members acquired cabinet posts in the UNLF administration. He also cited the Fronasa [Front for National Salvation], which claimed during the last general elections that they were the largest fighting group in the liberation war. He wondered why with such a force they did not overrun Kampala after going to the bush in 1981.

Dr Obote also informed the nation that there is a lot of evidence that Lules supporters chose banditry immediately after the fall of their leader in 1979. He wondered how the same people turn around to say they went to the bush because the 1980 elections were rigged.

CAMEROON

French Soldiers Expelled for Ties With Coup Plot

AB261215 Libreville Africa No 1 in French 0630 GMT 26 May 84

[Text] As a result of the abortive coup in Cameroon, five French soldiers belonging to the French technical military cooperation mission in Cameroon were recently recalled to France at the request of Cameroonian authorities. Official sources in Cameroon said these soldiers failed in their duty to remain silent, by passing various remarks about the 6 April abortive coup in Yaounde, which were not at all to the liking of Cameroonian authorities.

It must be noted that 70 French soldiers of various rank are stationed in Cameroon within the framework of the military cooperation mission.

National Union Party Reshuffle Announced

AB261209 Libreville African No 1 in French 0630 GMT May 84

[Text] President Paul Biya, the day before yesterday, made a wide-ranging reshuffle in the organs of the Cameroonian National Union (UNC), the only party. It is expected that these will be a decisive change within this party, permitting him to give a new impetus to this heavy political machinery.

President Biya himself stated just a few days ago in Yaounde that the UNC no longer corresponds to the realities of Cameroon today. According to him, it must not be limited to provincial seminars, electoral campaigns, or other official activities. In fact, more drastic reforms of the UNC organs are expected during the next party congress scheduled for next year.

Biya Chairs UNC Central Committee Meeting

AB242105 Yaounde Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 24 May 84

[Excerpts] The Central Committee met today for the second time since the Bafoussam Congress. Give us the outcome of this meeting, Jean-Marie Etoundi.

[Begin Etoundi recording] I would like to read you the press statement that has just been made public: An important meeting of the Central Committee of the Cameroonian National Union [UNC] took place late this morning at the Unity Palace under the chairmanship of His Excellency Paul Biya, the national chairman of the UNC. To begin, the national chairman asked the members of the Central Committee to observe a minute's silence to the memory of Comrade Athanase Eteme Oloa, who died recently, and also to that of our country's soldiers who died honorably on the battlefield, as well as the civilians who lost their lives in the recent unfortunate events that took place in our country early April 1984.

Before going to the different items on the agenda, the national chairman informed the Central Committee that, in accordance with Article 21 of the statutes, he has decided to appoint the following comrades as members of the Central Committee: Francois Sengat-Kuoh, Joseph Charles Doumba, Hayatou Sadou, Ibrahim Mbombo Njoya, Jean Nkouete, Jean-Marcel Mengeme, Victor Fife Mukete, Essomba Mdongo.

Moving to the first items on the agenda, the national chairman briefed the members of the Central Committee on current internal issues and referring to the unfortunate events that nearly plunged our country into chaos, the national chairman called for reconciliation among Cameroonians and the strengthening of national unity and requested the people to double their efforts at work in order to enable Cameroon to continue with its forward march in an atmosphere of unity, peace and stability.

In a second address, the political secretary, at the request of the national chairman, briefed the members of the Central Committee on the problems posed by the preparation of the fourth ordinary congress of the UNC which is scheduled to take place at Bamenda in the Northwest Province during the first month of 1985.

CHAD

Defense Minister Makes Visit to Zaire

Leaves for 3-Day Visit

AB252058 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1845 GMT 25 May 84

[Excerpt] Yoma Rotouang, minister of national defense, veterans, and war victims, left Ndjamena this morning for Zaire on a 3-day friendly working visit. During his visit to Zaire, Yoma Rotouang will have several contacts with Zairian officials, and will take the opportunity to visit the Kotakoli military school which admitted some Chadian soldiers last month.

Returns From Kinshasa

EA271543 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1845 GMT 26 May 84

[Text] The minister of national defense, veterans, and war victims, Mr Rotouang Yoma, has returned to Ndjamena [word indistinct] from Kinshasa. The minister went to Zaire for a friendly working visit yesterday.

According to the initial plan, he was to visit the Kotakoli [Zaire Special Commando Unit] training center where some elements of the Chadian National Forces are trained, notably those sent to Zaire. [as heard] Discussions with Zairean authorities went well, which allowed the minister to return to Ndjamena.

It is probable that Mr Rotouang is joining other colleagues in their mass mobilization mission in [word indistinct].

GUNT Commando Unit Kills 13 Government Soldiers

LD281642 Paris Domestic Service in French 1600 GMT 28 May 84

[Text] Renewal of tension in Chad: Thirteen government soldiers are said to have been killed last weekend by a Transitional Government of National Unity [GUNT] commando. Goukouni Ouddei's men have claimed responsibility for this action, which is said to have taken place in the south of the country.

CONGO

Joint Commission Meeting With Algeria Ends

AB281155 Dakar PANA in French 1555 GMT 27 May 84

[Text] Brazzaville, 27 May (APS-ALG/PANA) — The work of the Algeria-Congo Joint Commission's fifth session ended in Brazzaville on Friday. (Nureddin Harbi), Algeria's deputy minister in charge of cooperation, and Aime Emmanuel Yoka, Congolese minister delegate to the presidency in charge of cooperation, presided over the meeting.

(Harbi) and Aime Emmanuel Yoka signed a report and final communique at the end of the meeting.

ZAIRE

UN Ambassador Relieved of Duties by Decree

AB281853 Kinshasa AZAP in French 1730 GMT 28 May 84

[Text] Kinshasa, 28 May (AZAP) — The founding chairman of the MPR and president of the republic, Marshal Mobutu Sese Seko, on 23 May signed Decree No 84-127, relieving Citizen Nkema Liloo of his functions as ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Republic of Zaire to the United Nations.

Here is the text of the decree:

Decree No 84-127 of 23 May 1984 puts an end to the functions of Zaire's ambassador to the United Nations.

The founding chairman of the Popular Movement of the Revolution and President of the Republic,

Considering the Constitution, especially Articles 42, 45, and 47, considering Law No 81-003 of 17 July 1981, relating to the status of career personnel in state public service, considering, as hereby modified, Decree No 78-448 of 16 November 1978, relating to the streamlining of the administration in the diplomatic corps of the republic, decrees:

Article 1: The function of Citizen Nkema Liloo as ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Republic of Zaire to the United Nations has been terminated.

Article 2: Decree No 84-033 of 4 February, relating to the appointment of Citizen Liloo as ambassador of the Republic of Zaire to the United Nations Organization, is abrogated.

Article 3: The state commissioner for foreign affairs and international cooperation has been entrusted with the execution of the present decree, which becomes effective on the date it was signed.

Issued in Kinshasa on 23 May 1984.

[Signed] Mobutu Sese Seko Kuku Ngbendu Wa Za Banga, Marshal

Under House Arrest

LD261507 Brussels Domestic Service in French 1400 GMT 26 May 84

[Text] Zaire's permanent representative to the United Nations, Nkema Liloo, accused of high treason, has been demoted from his post. The Zairian authorities are reproaching him particularly over his contacts with President Mobotu's opponents, notably former Prime Minister Nguza Karl I Bond. The senior Zairian official has been recalled to Kinshasa where he is under house arrest.

Before taking up his UN post, he was diplomatic adviser to the Zairian president. He had also been in charge of Zaire's intelligence service. He is also the one to have engineered the return to Zaire of several of President Mobutu's opponents.

Presidential Election Set for Late July

AB271000 Kinshasa Domestic Service in French 1130 GMT 26 May 84

[Excerpt] The date for presidential elections has been fixed for Saturday, 28 July, and Sunday, 29 July 1984. The Executive Council, which met in its weekly session yesterday under the chairmanship of first state commissioner Kengo wa Dondo, chose the last weekend in July for the presidential elections.

CAPE VERDE

Niger's Kountche Arrives in Praia for Visit

AB281150 Niamey Domestic Service in French
0600 GMT 28 May 84

[Text] Supreme Military Council [CMS] Chairman and head of state General Seyni Kountche arrived in Praia early yesterday afternoon for an official visit to Cape Verde. The head of state, who was coming from Bamako, Mali, was welcomed on arrival in Praia by his Cape Verdian counterpart, Aristides Pereira, with whom he first held a political discussion. The discussion centered on cooperation between the two countries.

For their part, the ministers of rural development, and higher education and research, who are accompanying President Kountche, yesterday paid a series of visits to socioeconomic projects in Cape Verde. While in Bamako, head of state Gen Seyni Kountche expressed the hope to see an improvement in the coordination of the efforts of the member countries of the Permanent Interstate Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel. [passage indistinct]

The head of state's visit to Praia ends this morning. His next stopover will be in Dakar, where he will meet with the Senegalese head of state, Abdou Diouf.

GAMBIA

Court To Consider Coupists' Appeals

AB271115 Paris AFP in English 1026 GMT 27 May 84

[Text] Banjul, May 27 (AFP) — The court of appeal here will consider appeals against the death sentence on 27 people convicted of participating in the July 1981 coup attempt when it holds it next session in August.

Out of 1,091 people arrested in the wake of the abortive attempt to topple President Sir Dawda Jawara, 188 were charged and tried by special courts set up for the purpose. All but 50 were found guilty of offences including high treason, felony, and murder, and 63 were sentenced to death. None of the death sentences has been carried out, and in February Sir Dawda commuted 27 into prison terms of 20 years. Three other people condemned to death have died of natural causes in prison.

The supposed leader of the coup attempt, Kukoi Samba Sanyang, fled abroad after his defeat, when troops were called in from neighboring Senegal.

PPP Committee Approves Constitutional Amendments

AB271350 Dakar PANA in English 1250 GMT 27 May 84

[Text] Banjul, 27 May (GINS/PANA) — The first ordinary meeting of the National Executive Committee of the ruling People's Progressive Party [PPP] for 1984 has approved some amendments to the party constitution, according to a Radio Gambia newscast on Thursday.

The Radio Gambia report stated, however, that the amendments which increased the membership of the constituency executive committees from nine to 20, are still subject to confirmation by the party congress. But it did not say when.

The May 18 meeting also received and adopted the report by the secretary general, Sir Dawda Jawara, on the party's activities from April last year up to now.

The report, among other things, referred to gains made by the party in various constituencies through the conversion of independent members of parliament and thousands of opposition members as well as developments in mass organization, political education, and efforts to improve on its financial situation.

Last year's area council elections in which the PPP won all but one seat and the successful bye-elections in eastern Kiang constituency were also highlighted in the report.

The secretary general's report dwelt on the on-going cooperation with the ruling Party Socialist of Senegal, other democratic forces in the sub-region, and the Friedrich Ebert Foundation of West Germany.

GHANA

PNDC Issues Statement Marking Africa Day

AB251025 Accra Domestic Service in English
1700 GMT 25 May 84

[Text] The Provisional National Defense Council [PNDC] has restated that Ghana remains firmly committed to give every support within her resources to ensure that freedom, justice, and dignity are guaranteed in South Africa and in Namibia.

In a statement to mark Africa Day today, the government said this commitment is consistent with the solemn pledge by the late President Nkrumah that Ghana's independence is meaningless until the whole African Continent is free. The statement stressed the role Ghana has been playing in the African struggle, the inspiration and material assistance she has given to freedom fighters in southern Africa. It said Ghana cannot afford to abdicate this noble and honorable responsibility at a time when the enemy is deploying its most subtle and deadly strategies.

The statement notes that apart from the freedom struggle in southern Africa there are the serious issues of Chad and Western Sahara that confront the OAU. The statement pledged Ghana's support for all efforts to bring peace and stability to Chad, and justice and self-determination to the people of Western Sahara. It declared: In all these endeavors there is one consideration the PNDC will uphold at all cost, and that is the survival of the OAU. It asked Ghanaians to rededicate their energy to the total emancipation of the continent in dignity, peace and prosperity, and to strive to leave the posterity an invaluable instrument for proclaiming the African viewpoints in the countries of the world.

Referring to nonaggression pacts by some Frontline states with apartheid South Africa, the statement said Ghana appreciates the pressures that compelled them to sign these accords. The legitimate responsibility in protecting their sovereignty and security is not in question. What is in question is the insistent claim in certain quarters that the freedom struggle has not been placed at a disadvantage as a result. The statement said although ANC operations are being pursued in Mozambique and Swaziland, there are hopeful signals that in spite of the crucial upset the fight has not gone out of the freedom fighters.

Accords With Upper Volta, Ivory Coast Reported

AB242151 Accra Domestic Service in English
1800 GMT 24 May 84

[Text] Four hundred head of cattle valued more than $75,000 are to arrive in Ghana by the first half of next month under an economic cooperation agreement reached between Ghana and Upper Volta. The number is the first batch of a total consignment of about 24,000 head of cattle worth about $5 million which are expected in the country by March next year.

This was disclosed in Ouagadougou by the secretary for agriculture, Mr John Ndebugre, after the agreement-signing ceremony today. Mr Ndebugre, who was leading a four-man Ghana delegation, said under the terms of the agreement special arrangements have been worked out which will allow payment of one half of the total consignment through the barter system, and the other half by hard currency. Ghana on her part will supply Upper Volta with salt, sawn timber, and colanuts and as part of the agreement. Mr Ndebugre said an unspecified quantity of salt has already been moved to the Ghana-Upper Volta border from Paga awaiting the exchange of cattle from Po in Upper Volta. He said the agreement, which expires by March 1985, is to the mutual benefit of both countries which share the same hopes and aspirations for a better future for their peoples.

The secretary hoped the agreement, when fully operational, would help eliminate smuggling and black marketing. Mr Ndebugre said there is no point in Ghana spending huge amounts of foreign exchange to import frozen meat from Argentina and Uruguay while fresh meat could be obtained just across the border.

The Ghana delegation, which has since returned home after 3 days of talks in Upper Volta, includes Mr Ato Ahwoi, secretary for trade.

As regards the Ivory Coast, both countries are to step up cooperation in the geological field, including oil exploration for their mutual benefit. The two countries are also to work toward the reopening of their common border to ensure even movement of their people.

These were contained in a communique signed by the foreign ministers of the two countries at the end of the sixth session of the Ghana-Ivory Coast Joint Permanent Commission for Cooperation in Accra. In the communique, both Ghana and Ivory Coast reaffirmed their solidarity toward the international cocoa agreement and called for the revival of the Ghana-Ivory Coast border demarcation commission as well as the resumption of the friendship games between them.

The 3-day meeting discussed cooperational ties in the fields of agriculture, fishery, trade, education, and health. It also reviewed cooperation in industry, mining, and energy, and culture, and sports. The two countries also signed an agreement under which resources in fisheries would be exploited for use in the interest of their peoples.

In his closing remarks, the Ivorian foreign minister, Mr Simeon Ake, observed that the meeting afforded the opportunity to pursue a permanent policy of peace and good-neighborliness. Mr Ake said the successful conclusion of the meeting opens a new stage in Ghana-Ivorian relations and hoped the two countries will harness their efforts to defend the interests of their people.

The secretary for foreign affairs, Dr Obed Asamoah, said future cooperation between Ghana and the Ivory Coast is bright. He said Africa is rich in resources but its people are poor and desperate, adding that the time has come for cooperation among these countries for greater achievements.

Additional Agreement Signed

AB252110 Accra Domestic Service in English
1800 GMT 25 May 84

[Excerpt] Ghana and Upper Volta have signed additional agreements to consolidate the revolution in the two countries. The latest agreement on joint political, security, cultural, and sporting activities were concluded after talks between the Upper West regional secretary, Mr Yele Chireh, and the commissioner for the Sisily Province, Mr Bede Balao at Tumu.

A communique issued after the talks called for joint patrols of defense committees and security agencies of the two countries along their common border with the view to exposing dissidents and illegal traffickers in arms. The two delegations called for the early implementation of decisions reached at Bolgatanga this year on joint political rallies, clean-up campaigns and cultural and sporting activities.

Mr Balao announced at the meeting that the Upper Volta authorities have declared 4 June a public holiday in Upper Volta, where rallies will be held in all the provinces in solidairty with the Ghanaian anniversary celebrations.

GUINEA

President Conte Receives Soviet Ambassador

AB260631 Conakry Domestic Service in French
1945 GMT 25 May 84

[Text] The president, Colonel Lansana Conte, received at 1200 today, Friday, 25 May 1984, His Excellency Vladimir Kitayev, the Soviet ambassador to Guinea. The Soviet diplomat, on behalf of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and the USSR Council of Ministers, conveyed wishes of success and prosperity to the Military Committee for National Redress [CMRN], and the government of the Second Republic on the occasion of 25 May, African Liberation Day.

Speaking on the occasion, the Soviet diplomat states that African Liberation Day for us is a historic day, as it is for all the peoples of Africa, and all the world's progressive forces that we continue to support in their difficult tasks against the viscissitudes of history, and for the consolidation of the independence of their young nations.

Replying to this address, President Col Lansana Conte began by thanking the Soviet diplomat for his country's contribution to our people since their accession to national and international sovereignty. The head of state then praised the spirit of sacrifice and the ideals of peace and progress that have always guided the Soviet people in their gigantic task of support for all liberation movements against colonial domination.

This audience took place in the presence of Lieutenant Abdoulrahmane Diallo, member of the CMRN, ambassador and chief of state protocol, and [name indistinct], director of the press bureau of the Presidency of the republic.

LIBERIA

1974 Treaty With Gambia To Be Revived

AB280830 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 0655 GMT 28 May 84

[Text] Liberia and the Gambia have agreed to revive the treaty of friendship and cooperation signed between the two countries about 10 years ago. According to the Liberian news agency, a joint communique reviving the treaty was signed in Monrovia yesterday by head of state Commander in Chief [CIC] Samuel Kanyon Doe, and Gambian President Sir Dawda Jawara at the end of a 3-day visit to Liberia by the Gambian leader.

The treaty, which was signed in 1974, provided for cooperation between Liberia and the Gambia in the political, economic, and cultural fields. Under the communique signed yesterday, the two West African leaders agreed to establish a joint ministerial committee headed by their respective foreign ministers to meet annually in the two capitals alternatively. They also emphasized the importance of developing trade between their two countries in the spirit of the ECOWAS, and in compliance with the Lagos Plan of Action.

According to the communique, head of state Doe briefed President Jawara about developments in Liberia including the constitutional process [words indistinct] to return the country to civilian rule early 1986. The Gambian leader, for his part, informed CIC Doe about the political developments in his country, taking into account the progress made toward the establishment of the Senegambia Confederation. President Jawara also briefed Dr Doe on the serious problems affecting the agricultural sector of the Gambia due to the protracted drought that has hit that country.

In another development, the Governments of Liberia and the Gambia have strongly condemned the continuation of the repressive policies of the apartheid regime in racist South Africa. Head of state CIC Samuel Kanyon Doe and the Gambian President, Sir Dawda Jawara, made the condemnation in Monrovia yesterday at the end of a 3-day visit to Liberia by the Gambian leader. The two heads of state expressed deep concern about racist South Africa's continued illegal occupation of Namibia, and its refusal to implement Security Council Resolution 435 of 1978. They, however, renewed their total commitment to the liberation struggle of the African Continent and for the achievement of human rights and racial equality in southern Africa. The two heads of state agreed that current efforts to bring about the peaceful settlement to the Iran-Iraq dispute should be revived and intensified, in view of the escalation of the war and the danger it poses to international peace.

Meanwhile, the president of the Gambia, Sir Dawda Jawara, who ended the 3-day working visit here yesterday, has extended an invitation to the Liberian leader, CIC Dr Samuel Kanyon Doe, to visit the Gambia. The invitation was contained in a joint communique signed by Dr Doe and President Jawara at the Executive Mansion, prior to the Gambian leader's departure for Freetown, Sierra Leone, enroute home. CIC Doe accepted the invitation which is to be fixed through diplomatic channels.

Calls for OAU Summit

AB281656 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 1600 GMT 28 May 84

[Text] There has been a call for regular consultations among leaders of Africa. The call was made by head of state Commander in Chief [CIC] Samuel Kanyon Doe and Gambian President Sir Dawda Jawara, who ended a 3-day state visit to Liberia. The two leaders agreed that consultations among African leaders will afford them the opportunity to promote cooperation and understanding among member states of the OAU. They said in this light, it was important to hold the OAU summit this year and ensure its success in the interest of pan-Africanism and its objectives. President Jawara has invited CIC Samuel Kanyon Doe to visit the Gambia. Liberia news agency said CIC Doe has accepted the invitation, which is to be fixed through diplomatic channels.

MALI

Communique Issued on SWAPO Leader's Visit

AB281705 Bamako Domestic Service in French 1500 GMT 28 May 84

[Joint communique issued at the end of SWAPO leader Sam Nujoma's official working visit to Bamako on 26 May]

[Excerpts] At the invitation of the Malian People's Democratic Union [UDPM], the president of SWAPO, His Excellency Sam Nujoma, accompanied by a large delegation, paid an official, friendly, and working visit to Mali on 26 May 1984. A working session grouped on one side the SWAPO delegation led by its president Sam Nujoma, and on the other side the UDPM delegation led by its president Sam Nujoma and on the other side the UDPM delegation led by His Excellency Djibril Diallo, political secretary of the Control Executive Bureau of the UDPM. The session was held in the meeting room of the People's Hall.

During this working session, which was held in an atmosphere of friendship, solidarity, and mutual understanding, the two delegations extensively examined the current situation in Namibia and southern Africa. The two sides held a fruitful exchange of views on the recent diplomatic initiatives on the Namibian issue. To this end, they denounced the dilatory maneuvers of the racist South African regime aimed at imposing a neocolonial solution consisting of implanting in Namibia a puppet government made up of internal parties in the pay of Pretoria. The two sides also denounced the treacherous attempts of the South African administration aimed at linking Namibia's independence with the withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola. They strongly condemned the criminal and unjustifiable aggressions perpetrated by the racist troops of Pretoria against the sovereignty and the territorial integrity of the frontline states, thus dangerously compromising peace and security in the region.

The two sides reaffirmed that the strict implementation of 1978 Resolution 435 of the UN Security Council is the only basis for a just, (?peaceful), and lasting solution to the Namibian problem. Examining the current development in the situation in southern Africa, the two sides expressed their deep concern in the face of the policy of oppression and domination of the racist regime of Pretoria and reaffirmed their unflinching support to the national liberation struggle of the southern African people under the leadership of the ANC, in order to eliminate totally the apartheid system. The two sides strongly denounced the forthcoming visit of the South African prime minister to some Western countries. The aim of the visit is to whitewash the abominable system of apartheid in the face of international opinion.

The two sides reaffirmed their fidelity to the principles of the charters of the United Nations, the OAU, and the Nonaligned Movement, which aim at maintaining peace, security, and the installation of a new international order.

The two sides noted with satisfaction that the relations of friendship between Mali and SWAPO are developing successfully. They reaffirmed their determination to do everything to further strengthen the fraternal solidarity between the Namibian and Malian peoples.

The two sides expressed satisfaction with the positive results of their talks, and expressed their conviction that this visit will give a new impetus to the relations of friendship and solidarity between the two peoples. The Malian side reaffirmed its total and unconditional support to the heroic struggle of the Namibian people — under the leadership of their only and authentic representative, SWAPO — to recover their independence and their territorial integrity.

The president of SWAPO, His Excellency Sam Nujoma, thanked President Moussa Traore, the party, the government, and the people of Mali, for the warm hospitality accorded him and his delegation during their visit to Mali.

Issued in Bamako on 26 May 1984.

[Signed] For SWAPO, His Excellency Sam Nujoma, president of SWAPO; for the UDPM, His Excellency Djibril Diallo, political secretary of the Central Executive Bureau of the UDPM

Kountche Gives Press Conference Ending Visit

AB271430 Bamako Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 27 May 84

[Excerpts] President Seyni Kountche's working visit to Bamako has ended. General Seyni Kountche, the current chairman of the Permanent Interstate Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel [ICDCS], left our capital this morning for Praia at the end of a working visit to the headquarters of the Sahel Institute, the ICDCS's specialized organ. He was seen off at Senou by President General Moussa Traore who was accompanied by members of corporate bodies, and the diplomatic and consular corps, as well as of international organizations.

In an interview at the Hotel Amitie, President Kountche specifically underlined the severity of the drought in Africa, and the need for increased assistance to the affected countries.

Finally, touching on Western Sahara, the Niger president asserted that his country favors the application of the resolution of the previous OAU summit, which exhorts Morocco and the Polisario to undertake direct negotiations toward the observance of a cease-fire, and the organization of a referendum [words indistinct] in Western Sahara.

Those were the main points of the press conference held yesterday by President Seyni Kountche who left Bamako this morning for Praia.

NIGERIA

Judge Rules on Validity of Decrees

AB281414 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 28 May 84

[Text] A Lagos high court today dismissed an application brought by the ex-gorvenors of Oyo, Ogun, and Ondo states, urging the court to prohibit the Lagos Zone Special Military Tribunal on the recovery of public property, from trying them.

Giving her ruling, the presiding judge, Justice Rosaline Omotosho, stated that on the grounds of Decree No 147 Second Amendment to Decree 3, which dates back to 30 September 1979, for offenses triable by the tribunal, the court was incompetent to make the order of prohibition. Mrs Omotosho said that Decree 14 repealed Decree 8, which was the first amendment to Decree 3. Decree 8 had allowed the date of offenses triable by the tribunal as 31 December last year.

The judge however, pointed out that the court still had the power to determine whether it has jurisdiction to review decisions under the provisions of any decree or edict.

Court Dismisses Application by Former Governors

AB281902 Paris AFP in English 1855 GMT 28 May 84

[Text] Lagos, May 28 (AFP) — The Nigerian High Court today threw out an application by three formers state governors of Nigeria's ousted civilian administration to stop legal proceedings against them by the Lagos Military Tribunal trying economic crimes committed by ousted civilian politicians.

Justice Roseline Omotosho reversed an earlier ruling that her court had jurisdiction to hear the application following an amendment, which vested a military tribunal to try the former governors for corruption charges during the administration of the ousted civilian government of former President Shehu Shagari, who ruled from September 1979 to December 1983.

Former governors Bola Ige of Oyo state, Bisi Onabanjo of Ogun state and Adekunle Ajasin of Ondo state, members of the now banned Unity Party, are among 500 people held on corruption charges by the military regime of Major General Muhammed Buhari, who took power last December.

The former governors challenged the military government's right to try them for corruption charges dating from before the promulgation of the Recovery of Public Property Decree this year.

The recovery of Public Property Decree empowers a military tribunal to impose sentences raging from 21 years to life in prison on anyone found gulty of corruption.

Another military decree published last week reaffirmed the supremacy of any decree or edict issued by the Buhari regime over unsuspended provisions of the 1979 Constitution.

A number of law suits had challenged the competence of the federal or state military government to issue decrees and edicts.

An official statement said that verdicts in the closed door trials of the three former governors would be handed down Thursday.

The military tribunal is headed by Brigadier Paul Omu, a member of the ruling Supreme Military Council. The Nigerian Bar Association has boycotted the trials in protest against what it called the "judges' advisory role in a military-dominated" tribunal.

In a related development, seven prosecution witnesses testified today at the trials of former governors Sam Mbakwe of Imo state and Aper Aku of Benue state, who are facing charges of foreign exchange offences.

That trial opened last Monday, but adjourned to enable the accused to brief their lawyers.

The governors, who today pleaded not guilty, allegedly embezzled about 50,000 pounds sterling (75,000 dollars) each.

The Buhari regime decreed that a person found guilty of foreign exchange violations can be jailed for a minimum of five years or fined for an amount not less than the sum embezzled. A company found guilty of foreign exchange violations is liable to a fine of five times the amount of the transaction or 100,000 naira (about 130,000 dollars), whichever is higher.

SENEGAL

Niger President Arrives for Regional Talks

AB281438 Niamey Domestic Service in French 1200 GMT 28 May 84

[Excerpts] President Seyni Kountche arrived in Senegal today from Cape Verde within the framework of his tour of consultations with his Malian, Cape Verdian, and Senegalese counterparts. The head of state's visit to these three countries falls within the framework of strengthening solidarity among African countries in the face of the world economic recession, and the effects of the drought that has been raging in the countries of the Sahel. The purpose of President Seyni Kountche's tour is to hold discussions with his counterparts and reach agreement, to enable them to coordinate efforts to meet the challenges of the moment. There must be no giving up.

In his capacity as the current chairman of the Interstate Committee for the Control of the Drought in the Sahel [ICDCS], President Kountche's discussions with the Malian head of state in Bamako, the Cape Verdian head in Praia, and the Senegalese president in Dakar, are devoted to the situation in the Sahel for a better coordination of the efforts of the member countries.

The head of state was welcomed upon his arrival at the Dakar-Yoff International Airport by President Abdou Diouf. It worth noting that a popular and warm welcome was accorded President Seyni Kountche and his delegation by leaders and inhabitants of Dakar. This visit by the head of state to Dakar was highlighted by the Senegalese daily *LE SOLEIL*, writing in its editorial column [words indistinct]. The Niger head of state visited Dakar for a regional meeting, but he met his Senegalese counterpart outside different (?meetings). This is the first time that President Seyni Kountche has come for a working visit to Senegal. This particularly demonstrates the importance of the discussions which he will soon have with President Abdou Diouf, and which only brings out the important points — the drought, regional cooperation, the world economic crisis, the OAU, and finally, bilateral cooperation.

TOGO

Cuba's Castro Sends Greetings on OAU Anniversary

AB271310 Lome Domestic Service in French 1230 GMT 26 May 84

[Text] The head of state this morning received a congratulatory message from Cuban head of state, Fidel Castro Ruz, on the 21st anniversary of the OAU, which was observed yesterday. The message reads:

On the occasion of Africa Day, and the 21st anniversary of the OAU, I wish to express our congratulations on behalf of the people and Government of Cuba, to your excellency and the people and Government of Togo. On such an important day, we renew our unlimited support for and solidarity with the struggle of the Nambian people for their independence, under the guidance of its sole and legitimate representative SWAPO, the ANC, and the South African patriots in their struggle against the inhuman system of apartheid. We also reiterate our support for the struggle of the people of the SDAR for their total independence. Please accept the assurances of my highest considerations.

Signed: Fidel Castro Ruz, president of the Councils of State and Ministers of the Republic of Cuba

UPPER VOLTA

Ouagadougou Announces Publication of Constitution

AB281629 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 28 May 84

[Statement issued by National Council of the Revolution on 27 May]

[Text] Revolutionary people of Upper Volta, comrade militants of the CDR [Committees for the Defense of the Revolution]: Since the historic date of 4 August 1983, sincere patriots devoted to the cause of the people have organized themselves in the CDR, thus responding to the call of the comrade chairman of the CNR [National Council of the Revolution].

Guided solely by the desire to effectively participate in consolidating the achievements of the August revolution, they managed to organize themselves without any supporting text. The CNR had confidence in the capability of our people to develop their spirit of initiative, and their ability to organize. Some used the absence of a constitution as a pretext for adopting a wait-and-see attitude, thus drifting gradually to counterrevolution. Others, who yearned for the bureaucratic practices of reactionary regimes, and who did not understand the profound change that was made in our country, as well as the massive acceptance of the ideals of the August revolution by the popular masses, demanded the constitution before undertaking any other action.

There is nothing more enriching than the experience gathered by the people. In fact, our militant people have undergone their own school of democracy, free from all scholastic and parliamentarianist visions. Having defined the political guidelines and organized the people, now the maintenance and consolidation of these guideliness depend solely on the concrete implementation of the organizational principles.

Militants of the Upper Voltan people's revolution, today the CNR, announces to you the publication of your instrument of regulation and operation, namely, the Constitution of the CDR. It will be published in the Monday 28 and Tuesday 29 May 1984 issues of your daily, *SIDWAYA*. The implementation of the Constitution will be under the directives of the national secretariat of the CDR. The CNR appeals to your revolutionary vigilance, and calls for discipline and strict observance of the Constitution for the consolidation of the democratic people's revolution.

Fatherland or death, we will win.

Signed: Ouagadougou, 27 May 84, Captain Thomas Sankara, CNR chairman

Articles 1, 2 of Constitution Eplained

AB281758 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 28 May 84

[Excerpt] The text of the Constitution regulating the life of the Revolutionary Defense Committees [CDR] has just been issued. The CDR general Constitution comprises three principal points:

1. Definition and objectives.
2. Organization.
3. Duties, mode of operation.

SIDWAYA, the Upper Voltan national newspaper, which was the first to have the news today, publishes Articles One and Two of the general Constitution. These concern the definition, objectives, and organization of the CDR.

According to Article One of the general Constitution, the CDR are the organs of the National Revolutionary Council [CNR]. They are the authentic grassroots organizations of the people in the exercise, control, defense, and consolidation of revolutionary power. As a fundamental revolutionary organization, the CDR's objective is to ensure the strict implementation of measures taken, decisions and arrangements made by the CNR; execute all revolutionary duties entrusted to it by the CNR; mobilize, educate, and organize the people for all local and or national revolutionary tasks or actions in the economic, political, social, and security fields; to prepare their members for the defense of the revolution on the military, political, economic, social, and cultural fronts; revive and promote the wealth of the people's cultural heritage; and liberate the creative genius of the people. Finally, the CDR are to bring the people to exercise revolutionary power in an effective manner.

With regard to the organization of CDR, it takes a pyramid form. The central organ of this organization is the CNR, surrounded by the CDR Congress, presided over by the CDR national secretariat and its basic structures, which start at the village level, and continue right up to the provincial council level. This is briefly a rough definition of the objectives and organization of the CDR. In the next installment, *SIDWAYA* will present the functions and operation of the CDR. Note that the importance of the general Constitution of the CDR was such that readers rushed for it, and the daily quickly became unavailable.

Statement Issued on Postponed Sankara Visit

AB282150 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 28 May 84

[Statement by Director of the Presidential Press Service Comrade Jean-Hubert Bazie "on the national situation"; date and place not given — live]

[Text] The Upper Voltan head of state, Captain Thomas Sankara, did not leave Ouagadougou today for the Ivory Coast as was announced by the national and international media. This trip, which did not take place, has given rise to a series of interpretations. According to some, the dismissal of the minister of youth and sports has given rise to an internal situation that is not only tense, but also serious, and which makes it impossible for Capt Sankara to undertake this trip.

It seems that the Upper Voltan head of state's proposed schedule during his visit to Ivory Coast included a meeting with the Upper Voltan community there, a visit to Abidjan port, a meeting with workers, and finally a visit to the university, and discussions with the students. This program is in accordance with the Upper Voltan leader's desire to have direct contact with the people, with the Ivorian people, the Ivorian youth, and the working masses, in addition to the meeting with the head of state.

Moreover, this desire is in accordance with the vision of the people's new Upper Volta, which despite the problems of security that could have arisen during the recent visit to Upper Volta by Flight Lieutenant Rawlings, made the Ghanaian leader's visit a very popular one in both Ouagadougou and Bobo Dioulasso. There were numerous crowds to meet him, and he received numerous invitations to share meals with the people.

The meetings with the people therefore appear to us to be the *sine qua non* condition for the Upper Voltan head of state's visit abroad, so we find it difficult to believe that what took place here cannot take place elsewhere. Besides, it seems that this desire of the people of the new Upper Volta, represented by the National Council of the Revolution [CNR] chairman to meet the Ivorian people, is shared by our brothers on the coast, since we believe that there would have been an unprecedented mobilization of the masses in the Ivory Coast, which would have been equalled only by the mobilization which preceded the arrival of Pope John-Paul II.

President Houphouet-Boigny's invitation to Captain Sankara to visit Ivory Coast is an honor to the Upper Voltan people, and we hope this meeting between the Upper Voltan and Ivorian people will take place at another time.

As for those, who, for obvious reasons, talked about a certain deterioration in the internal atmosphere, the statement of certain leaders such as the one made in Paris by Comrade Arba Diallo, show, if necessary, that the Upper Voltan regime is capable of overcoming the contradictions that are growing and could arise within the government coalition. But who wishes for and hopes that there will be disruption in the government? Some are even imagining that there was an imminent coup, which is why the comrade president was unable to travel. But then, as the saying goes, who would have benefited from the crisis? If such a hypothesies were taken into account, there is no doubt that truth will come out.

Only the bats are afraid of light. The CNR motto is to always shed light on all areas, and its duty is to defend the interests of the people in all places and at all times.

Differences on Agenda Cited

AB281612 Paris AFP in French 1514 GMT 28 May 84

[Text] Ouagadougou, 28 May (AFP) — Captain Thomas Sankara's official visit to Ivory Coast, which should have begun on 28 May, has been postponed, it was announced today by the Upper Voltan News Agency, AVP, citing government sources. AVP does not give any reasons for the postponement of this visit. It only indicates that President Sankara's visit to Ivory Coast "is merely postponed."

However, it has been learned from generally well-informed sources, that differences exist between Ivorian and Upper Voltan authorities on the schedule of President Sankara's visit to the Ivory Coast. According to the Ivorian side, this visit should be limited only to Yamoussoukro, the Ivorian capital, whereas the Upper Voltan side insists that the head of state should take advantage of his visit to meet the large community of Upper Voltans on the coast, and those working at the port of Abidjan, as well as students at the university.

In Ouagadougou, observers say it had been hoped until the last minute that the differences would be settled between the two capitals. In an editorial, the government daily, *SIDWAYA*, today hailed President Houphouet-Boigny as "a man of wisdom and dialogue with which he has often been able to dominate events." *SIDWAYA* indicated that "the two peoples — Ivorians and Upper Voltans — expect from this first visit of President Sankara to Ivory Coast a strengthening of the bonds of friendship and brotherhood that has always existed between them."

Cuba's Castro Sends Greetings on Africa Day

AB271420 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French
1300 GMT 26 May 84

[Text] The chairman of the National Council of the Revolution received the following message:

On the occasion of Africa day and the 21st anniversary of the OAU, I wish to express our congratulations on behalf of the people and governmemt of the Rupublic of Cuba to you and the people and Government of Upper Volta. This important anniversary takes place at a time when the imperialist powers and their allies on the continent have intensified their offensive against the efforts made by the people of Africa to ensure their happiness, social progress, and unity, and to eliminate the last remnants of colonialism.

In this respect, we renew our unflinching support for this cause, and our solidarity particularly with the Namibian patriots who, under the guidance of SWAPO, are fighting for their independence, with the ANC, and the South African patriots in their struggle against apartheid.

We equally express our support for and solidarity with the people of the SDAR in their struggle for their independence and self-determination. We are confident that the people of Africa will overcome their difficulties and work together for the unity of their supreme political organization, the OAU, to achieve the highest aspirations of the people of this continent. Please accept my sincere wishes for success in your mission and our revolutionary greetings.

[Signed] Fidel Castro Ruz, president of the Councils of State and Ministers of the Republic of Cuba

Defense Minister Returns From USSR, DPRK Trip

AB271340 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French
1300 GMT 26 May 84

[Text] Battalion Commander Boukari Jean-Baptiste Lingani, minister of national defense and veterans affairs, commander inchief of the High Command of the National Armed Forces, has just ended a friendly working visit to Moscow in the USSR, and Pyongyang in the DPRK. On his way home, he made a stopover in Algiers, where he was received by that country's top officials, and in Bamako where he held talks with Malian President Moussa Traore, and the Malian minister of national defense.

ANGOLA

Luanda Reports 340 UNITA 'Lackeys' Killed

MB260652 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 26 May 84

[Text] About 60 civilians, mainly old men, women, and children, have been murdered in the areas of (?Cambuige) and Xa-Muteba in Lunda Norte Province [as heard] by UNITA bandits. This was disclosed by ANGOP, citing military sources of the 9th Regional Command. A considerable number of other civilians were wounded, some houses destroyed, 16 women kidnapped, and a number of cattle were stolen following the bandit attack.

The bandits used torture on the civilians, and went to the extent of ripping the bellies of pregnant women and amputating the upper and lower limbs of a number of people.

In response to the attack, the People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FAPLA] killed 36 bandits, two of whom were the commander and the political commissar of the group, and seized a quantity of war materiel.

What is more, in Moxico Province, on the outskirts of Leua municipality to be precise, our defense and security forces killed 340 UNITA lackeys very recently. This was also disclosed by ANGOP citing an official source. The action also resulted in the seizure of 60 G-3's, 3 rifles, and a second lieutenant's insignia.

On 16 May, 12 bandits were killed at Vila Flores in Huambo Province, and another captured when a group of puppets was trying to mount a base there.

No Government Casualties Cited

NC251757 Paris AFP in English 1749 GMT 25 May 84

[Text] Lisbon, May 25 (AFP) — Angolan Government Forces killed 340 UNITA guerrillas during an operation in the town of Leua, in Moxico Province, eastern Angola, the official ANGOP news agency reported in a dispatch received here today.

Angolan forces also killed 11 members of the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA] in Huambo Province in southern Angola, ANGOP added.

No information was given about the date of the operations or losses suffered by Angolan Government forces.

Czechoslovakia's Chnoupek Delivers Husak Message

MB250746 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 25 May 84

[Text] Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos, the Angolan head of state, received in Luanda yesterday a personal message from President Gustav Husak of the Czechoslovak Socialist Party. Bearing the message was Bohuslav Chonoupek, Czechoslovak foreign minister, who is visiting our country at the invitation of Comrade Paulo Jorge, our country's foreign minister. Yesterday afternoon, the Czechoslovak delegation was received by Afonso van Dunem, the party Central Committee secretary for external relations, with whom it discussed issues connected with the strengthening of friendship between the two countries and the international situation. Also yesterday afternoon, the two sides concluded the official talks which they began in Luanda yesterday morning.

According to a source close to the Foreign Ministry, the two sides were expected to sign a cooperation protocol in the field of health at the end of the talks. The Czechoslovak delegation ends its visit to our country today.

Joint Communique Issued

MB251900 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 25 May 84

[Angolan-Czechoslovak Joint Communique on 23-25 May visit to Angola by Czechsolovak Foreign Minister Bohuslav Chnoupek, issued in Luanda on 25 May]

[Text] At the invitation of Comrade Paulo Teixeira Jorge, member of the MPLA-Labor Party Central Committee and minister of foreign affairs of the People's Republic of Angola, Comrade Bohuslav Chnoupek, member of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia [CPCZ] Central Committee and minister of foreign affairs of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, made an official, friendly visit to the People's Republic of Angola from 23 to 25 May 1984. The CSSR minister of foreign affairs was received by Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos, chairman of the MPLA-Labor Party and president of the People's Republic of Angola, to whom he conveyed a message from Comrade Gustav Husak, general secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee and president of the CSSR. Comrade President Jose Eduardo dos Santos returned the comradely greetings from President Gustav Husak. The minister was also received by Comrade Afonso van Dunem Mbinda, secretary for foreign relations of the MPLA-Labor Party Central Committee.

The minister of foreign affairs of the People's Republic of Angola and the minister of foreign affairs of the CSSR held talks on matters of common interest related to the situation in their respective countries, bilateral cooperation, and questions concerning the international situation. The talks were held in an atmosphere of friendship and mutual understanding. Comrade Minister Bohuslav Chnoupek informed Comrade Minister Paulo Jorge about the successes achieved by the people of Czechoslovakia under the leadership of the CPCZ in the building of a developed socialist society. The Angolan foreign minister informed his Czechoslovak counterpart on the results attained in the strengthening of the Angolan revolutionary process, the building and strengthening of party structures throughout the national territory, and the building of the bases for a socialist society, as well as the measures adopted to defend national sovereignty and socioeconomic development of the People's Republic of Angola.

The Angolan side gave a detailed account of the evolution of the situation brought about by the acts of armed aggression by South Africa, which since 1981 has occupied a part of Angolan territory despite the unanimous condemnation of the international community. In this context, it exposed Pretoria's policy which is aimed at destabilizing the Southern African countries, particularly the frontline states, in order to prevent their economic independence, extend the colonial domination of Namibia, and perpetuate the apartheid regime in South Africa. The Angolan side also described efforts made by the party and Government of the People's Republic of Angola to put an end to the undeclared war from which it has been suffering at the hands of South Africa — namely, diplomatic actions aimed at achieving a military disengagement and the complete withdrawal of the South African troops from Angolan territory, as well as the implementation of UN Resolution 435 on the independence of Namibia.

The Czechoslovak side hailed the efforts made by the People's Republic of Angola which, together with the other frontline states, is playing an important role in the struggle of the southern African peoples for national liberation, independence, and the elimination of apartheid and racial discrimination. Regarding the evolution of the situation in Southern Africa, the Czechoslovak side expressed its support for the measures taken by the People's Republic of Angola with a view to safeguarding its independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity and creating the necessary conditions for a peaceful solution of the region's problems.

Both sides reiterated their total support for the struggle of the Namibian people for independence under the leadership of SWAPO, their sole legitimate representative, and reaffirmed their belief that UN Resolution 435 constitutes the only legal basis that has been internationally accepted for the peaceful solution of the Namibian problem. They also reaffirmed their solidarity with the ANC and its heroic struggle against apartheid, and for recognition of the legitimate rights of the South African people.

Both sides assessed with profound concern the fact that, thanks to the growing aggressiveness of the most reactionary circles of international imperialism, international tension has increased. They saw it as a matter of urgency to adopt measures to safeguard world peace and security. Both parties vehemently condemned the use of force and the threat to use force, the interference in the domestic affairs of sovereign states, and the escalation of the arms race, which are the main causes of the deterioration in international relations.

The Czechoslovak minister of foreign affairs informed his Angolan counterpart of the results of the meeting of the ministerial committee of the Warsaw Pact member states, which was held in Budapest in April of 1984, and stressed the imperative need for the withdrawal of the American medium-range missiles deployed in Western Europe, and for the conscious creation of conditions for the resumption of talks on the elimination of medium-range and tactical nuclear weapons in Europe.

Both parties reaffirmed their readiness to cooperate in steps to prevent a nuclear war, achieve a freeze in the arms race, and bring about a reduction of weapons on the basis of reciprocal equality and security. In this context, the two parties regarded as particularly important the initiatives put forward by the countries of the socialist community, namely the proposal to conclude an agreement on (?renouncing) the use of military force and maintaining peaceful relations between the member states of the Warsaw Pact and the NATO member states, adherence to which would be open to all countries of the world.

Both parties expressed their concern over the aggressiveness of the imperialist forces, which are promoting a policy of confrontation and interference in the domestic affairs of sovereign states, thus contributing to the aggravation of existing conflicts and the creation of new conflicts, namely in Africa, the Middle East, and Latin America. In this context, the ministers reaffirmed their countries' solidarity with the peoples struggling against colonialism, zionism, imperialism, neocolonialism, racism, and apartheid.

During the visit, the two ministers signed a cooperation accord in the field of health and medical sciences between the People's Republic of Angola and the CSSR. The ministers expressed the belief that the visit and the talks that were held will contribute to the development and strengthening of the relations of friendship and cooperation between the People's Republic of Angola and the CSSR.

The CSSR minister of foreign affairs expressed his most heartfelt thanks for the cordial welcome given to him during his stay in the People's Republic of Angola, and reiterated the invitation to his Angolan counterpart to make an official visit to the CSSR. The invitation was accepted with satisfaction, and a date will be determined at a later stage.

UNITA Issues Communique on 1-15 May Fighting

MB260541 (Clandestine) Voice of Resistance of the Black Cockerel in Portuguese to Angola 0430 GMT 25 May 84

[Communique on UNITA Military Activities for period 1-15 May issued by "the Operations Office of the UNITA Strategic Operational Command" — date and place not given]

[Text] In Uige Province on 9 May, a landmine explosion destroyed an Ural truck between Sanza Pombo and Santa Craz, killing seven People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FAPLA] soldiers. On 13 May, an enemy company was defeated when it left Cangola to recapture a position in Bundo. In the attack, the enemy suffered eight confirmed dead. Two other FAPLA men were captured. They are Sergeant (Daniel Quimuenzo) and Private (Augusto Quifiriri). A total of six automatic weapons, two RPG-7's, four RPD's, two PKM's, and two field radios with attachments were seized.

In Cuanza Sul Province on 2 May, our forces attacked the 150th Brigade at a place 7 km west of Quibala. A total of nine FAPLA soldiers and one Cuban were killed. A total of 12 Russian AK's, 1 82-mm mortar, 27 antipersonnel mines, 32 RPG-7 shells, 1 Makarov pistol, and Cuban-made rations were seized.

In Malanje Province on 3 May, two trucks were attacked and destroyed on the Xamuteba-Xandel road by our forces who killed 22 FAPLA men and captured 16 weapons. Other equipment was completely destroyed in the attack.

In Lunda Province on 4 May, a military truck traveling from Dundo to Henrique de Carvalho was attacked about 9 km from Herique de Carvalho, resulting in the destruction of the truck, and the death of 12 FAPLA personnel and the capture of 6 others. A total of 12 light weapons and 1 radio transmitter were captured.

In Moxico Province on 12 May, after a clash lasting 1 hour, the enemy stronghold at Leua and the Benguela railroad were captured by our forces. The enemy forces consisting of one brigade reinforced by one Cuban company, was involved in the firefight in which 223 FAPLA soldiers and 12 Cubans were killed. The dead FAPLA personnel included the Leua municipal commissioner, called Gabriel, and the chief of operations of the 3d Military Region, a first lieutenant named (Quima), who had arrived a day prior to the attack. A total of 2 BDR and 3 BRMD-2 trucks, 1 train with 18 cars loaded with military equipment, 8 trucks and 2 75-mm canons, 5 B-10 canons, 5 (GUP's), state security residences, and 4 oil tanks with 30,000 liters of gasoline, and 28,000 liters of diesel were destroyed. A total of 45 AK's, 31 G-3's, 2 (GUP's), 8 RPG-7's medicines and various other items were seized.

In Bie Province on 6 May, our forces ambushed a FAPLA force between Cuemba and Bie, capturing 12 light weapons, 3 60-mm mortars, 1 RPG-7, various equipment, and a driver named (Felix Alfredo), killing 14 FAPLA personnel and destroying 5 trucks.

In Huambo Province on 13 May, 35 members of the public presented themselves to our forces. They came from Huambo town and were running away from the massacre currently being perpetrated by the Cubans against innocent people, and a situation in Huambo in which people are being arbitrarily searched and jailed and a compulsory curfew is in effect. On 14 May, a landmine explosion between Huambo and Culimahala destroyed a Gaz truck, killing all its occupants.

In Huila Province on 1 May, the town of Sangueve was stormed and captured by our forces who captured 12 AK's, 6 G-3's, 2 RPG-7's, 6 82-mm mortars, 1 B-10 cannon, 1 bazooka, 2 GK-21 machineguns with 200 rounds of ammunition, 1 radio transmitter, 150 pairs of military boots, uniforms, and 181,437 kwanza. They also destroyed one Zil, three Ural, and two UAZ trucks. A total of 377 members of the public were liberated. On 2 May, a bomb placed by our forces in Caconda exploded, destroying the residence of the local state security service chief.

On 9 May, our forces defeated the enemy at Gandongue, killing 13 FAPLA personnel, 8 members of the People's Defense Organization and 2 agents of state security service. They captured 6 AK's, one RPG-7, 64 antipersonnel landmines, 50 antitank mines, 48,764 rounds of ammunition of various calibers, and 15 RPG-7 shells. On 12 May, our forces stormed the Vila Branca enemy base killing 17 FAPLA personnel and 2 Cubans, seizing 9 Czechoslovak-made AK's, 2 AKM's, 3 PKM's, 1 Tokarev pistol, 1 75-mm cannon, 1 14.5-mm cannon, and 132 different bombs; destroying 5 trucks; and capturing a FAPLA second lieutenant named (Enersto Silva Nono).

Finally, in Cuando Cubango Province on 13 May, our forces attacked the enemy barracks at Cutato, capturing 11 Ak's, 2 Russian-made Mauser Weapons, 4 AKM's, 8 RPG-7's, 1 B-10 cannon, and 2 (GUP's), and destroying 1 BTR.

During this period, UNITA suffered 11 dead and 26 wounded.

LESOTHO

Minister Cites Open-Door Policy for Refugees

MB251630 Maseru Domestic Service in English
1130 GMT 25 May 84

[Text] The minister of information and broadcasting, the Honorable D.T. Sixishe, has stressed that the prime minister, the Right Honorable Dr Leabua Jonathan, made it clear at the beginning of his career as the leader of Lesotho, that the country's border are open to genuine political refugees. He had even then, however made it clear that Lesotho will not allow people to come in with the sole object of interfering in local politics, nor would the Lesotho Government allow the country to be used as a place for hostile or subversive action against the Republic of South Africa.

Mr Sixishe, who was talking at the Royal Commonwealth Society yesterday on the subject "Lesotho in a Southern Africa Perspective," said that on the eve of Lesotho's self-determination, Dr Jonathan had explained that Lesotho will not interfere with South Africa and does not expect South Africa to interfere with her. Mr Sixishe said that this is elementary commonsense. Lesotho is intimately related to South Africa geographically, historically, and economically. He added that, at the same time, Lesotho is well aware that it is part of the new Africa and, in addition, Lesotho is aware, too, that Africa is itself a part of a much bigger world.

MOZAMBIQUE

Amnesty for Surrendering Bandits Announced

MB280625 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese
0600 GMT 28 May 84

[Text] The People's Assembly Standing Commission will approve within the next few days a law pardoning those people involved in acts of banditry who voluntarily surrender, President Samora Machel has announced. The law will enable such people to organize their private lives in freedom and integrate themselves in the various activities of national reconstruction. A communique issued by the Presidency of the republic last night says that the government will ask the international community to grant assistance to specific programs for reintegrating into national life those who surrender. In the communique, the Mozambican head of state said on behalf of the Council of Ministers that armed banditry has lost the strength that created and supported it.

Machel Returns to Maputo After Visit to Nampula

MB251936 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese
1700 GMT 25 May 84

[Text] President Samora Machel returned this afternoon from Nampula, where he had been on a working visit since last Friday.

The visit by the supreme leader to Nampula Province ended with a rally in the provincial capital, during which he disclosed Frelimo Party Political Bureau assessments, which were made during a 2-day meeting in Nampula to analyze the province's problems on the spot, particularly the fight against armed banditry. On the occasion, President Samora Machel said that Nampula's armed bandits are nothing but unscrupulous armed thieves who spend their time stealing the property of the people by means of armed robbery.

During the first part of the rally, which was held yesterday afternoon, the Mozambican head of state referred to the measures that will be taken to purge from the state apparatus the opportunists who have taken it by storm, and who are to a great extent responsible for the shortcomings faced by the people.

It will be recalled that the rally was interrupted yesterday because it was getting late. The rally resumed this morning.

On his return to Maputo, President Samora Machel was accompanied by Armando Guebuza, Mariano Matsinhe, and Jorge Rebelo, members of the Frelimo Party Political Bureau. On his arrival the president was welcomed at the airport by Fernando Ganhao, member of the Frelimo Party Central Committee and member of the People's Assembly Standing Commission.

Machel Regards Botha Statement as 'Very Positive'

MB280745 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0600 GMT 28 May 84

[Text] The Mozambican leader has regarded as very positive the statement made by the South African Government in making all possible efforts to achieve peace, stability, and progress in Mozambique and South Africa.

In a statement issued last night, Pieter Botha, prime minister of the Government of South Africa, reaffirmed South Africa's commitment to the spirit and letter of the Nkomati Accord, and its unequivocal rejection of acts of violence and subversion against the People's Republic of Mozambique and South Africa.

Gambari Meets Machel, Brings Buhari Message

AB252221 Lagos NAN in English 1200 GMT 25 May 84

[By Ike Mbonu]

[Text] Mampula (Mozambique), May 25 (NAN) — President Samora Machel of Mozambique yesterday called on all African nations to work together to free the rest of Africa from colonialism and racism.

Receiving a special message from the head of state, Major General Muhammadu Buhari, through the minister of external affairs, Dr Ibrahim Gambari, at Mampula, Mozambique, President Machel said that African nations had a special task in this direction. He said that Mozambique would always be in the forefront of the struggle for the liberation of the whole of Africa from colonialism, racism and apartheid, a correspondent of the NEWS AGENCY OF NIGERIA (NAN) reports.

Speaking earlier, Dr Gambari said that Maj Gen Buhari, had given him a "message of solidarity" for both the president and people of Mozambique, adding that the problem of southern Africa was a key concern to Nigeria.

Dr Gambari, who is on 15-day fact-finding tour of the frontline states, had on Wednesday visited the Mozambican refinery Petromoc. He also visited the Mozambican port complex, and some agricultural projects being executed by cooperative unions in Mahota and Lualane "green zones."

Dr Gambari has since gone to Zimbabwe in continuation of the tour.

MNR Kills Three Portuguese Citizens

MB261030 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1000 GMT 26 May 84

[Text] Three Portuguese nationals have been killed by rebels in Mozambique. A Lisbon newspaper reports three Portuguese citizens have been killed near Maputo and a fourth has been kidnapped by members of the Mozambique National Resistance. The attack is the first reported incident against foreign nationals since last August. The Portuguese Embassy in Maputo has confirmed the attack, but the identities of the victims have not been made known

Resistance Warns Foreigners To Expect Attacks

MB290735 Umtata Capital Radio in English 0600 GMT 29 May 84

[Text] All foreign nationals in Mozambique have been warned to expect attacks by antigovernment rebels. A spokesperson for the Mozambique National Resistance [MNR] says they will not hesitate to attack foreigners working in the country. The spokesperson described foreign nationals as legitimate military targets and says it will attack all non-Mozambicans, including South Africans. The statement comes shortly after reports that three Portuguese citizens have been killed, and another captured near Maputo.

NAMIBIA

Release of 54 SWAPO Detainees Announced

MB251526 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1446 GMT 25 May 84

[Text] Windhoek, May 25, SAPA — A total of 54 SWAPO detainees held in SWA/Namibia have been set free, the administrator general of the territory, Dr Willie van Niekerk, said in Windhoek.

Their release from a detention camp at Mariental in southern SWA/Namibia follows recommendations of a board of inquiry appointed by Dr Van Niekerk last year. According to the board's report, they no longer posed a threat to law and order, Dr Van Niekerk said in a statement.

Dr van Niekerk said earlier the release of more detainees held at Mariental was being investigated.

Most of those held at Mariental were understood to have been taken prisoner in a South African Defense Force preemptive strike into Angola in 1978. The number still being held at Mariental is not known.

Earlier this week, South African authorities handed over 30 Angolan prisoners held at Mariental to the Angolan contingent of the Joint Monitoring Commission. The exchange of prisoners between the two countries included a Cuban and a member of the SWA Territory Force. Two weeks ago, Dr van Niekerk set free 15 SWA/Namibians serving various jail sentences after they had been transferred from South African prisons to the territory.

The latest release brings to 75 the number of SWA/Namibians freed by South African authorities, beginning with the release of SWAPO cofounder Mr Andimba Toivo Ja Toivo in March this year.

The detention of 29 SWAPO supporters at Mariental was the subject of a court action in Windhoek last month which was stopped by a certificate issued by the South African minister of defence [as received], Mr Kobie Coetzee.

Legal circles in Windhoek said the measure in terms of section 103 (4) of the defence act would be contested in the Windhoek Supreme Court next Monday, but it is not known whether proceedings will go ahead following the release of the 54 detainees today.

The detainees were released into the care of relatives and friends. Most of them are from northern SWA/Namibia.

It was pointed out in Windhoek that the release of prisoners constituted one of the main elements of United Nations Security Council Resolution 435 (1978), which stipulates procedures for SWA/Namibia to gain its independence.

MPC Delegation Meets Botha, Discusses Situation

MB251659 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1622 GMT 25 May 84

[Text] Cape Town, May 25, SAPA — A delegation of the SWA/Namibian Multiparty Conference [MPC] met the prime minister, Mr P.W. Botha, and the minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, in Cape Town today for discussions on the territory.

The delegation had asked to meet the prime minister to inform him of "their views on their own problems and how they see the future," Mr P.W. Botha told journalists at a photo session.

"They have seen a number of different heads of African states and of other governments in the past few weeks and they thought it only fit to express their views to me also," the prime minister added.

The delegation was aware of the forthcoming trip to Europe by the prime minister and minister of foreign affairs, and had thought it best to put their views to the two before they left.

The administrator general of SWA/Namibia, Dr Willie van Niekerk, also attended the meeting. Among the representatives of the Multiparty Conference at the meeting were Mr Dirk Mudge of the Democratic Turnhalle Alliance, Mr Andreas Shipanga of SWAPO-Democrats, Mr Moses Katjuongo of the South-West African National Union, Kaptein Hans Diergaardt of the Damara Council,nd Mr Eben van Zijl of the National Party of South-West Africa.

Explosion Damages Building in Ondangwa

MB251942 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 25 May 84

[Text] An explosion has caused minor damage to a wholesale company belonging to the First National Development Corporation at Ondangwa. The regional manager of the development corporation, Mr (Visagie), says the explosion occurred at (Ondjondjo) Wholesalers at about 1045. No one was injured in the incident, and the building was only slightly damaged.

NP Leaders Comment on Bomb Explosion, SWAPO

MB271035 Windhoek DIE REPUBLIKEIN in Afrikaans 18 May 84 p 1

[Text] Mr Kosie Pretorius, leader of the National Party [NP] in Namibia, speaking about Wednesday night's bomb explosion in Windhoek, said the price of getting SWAPO to peace negotiations may be too high, and consideration should be given to going ahead without them. He said the bomb explosion indicates that SWAPO will continue with violence to achieve its objectives, and not show real interest in efforts for a peaceful settlement.

Mr Jannie de Wet, one of the deputy leaders of the NP in Namibia, said that an act such as the bomb explosion in Windhoek is reprehensible, and one wonders whether there is justification to continue negotiations under the circumstances.

He also said it was time to reflect seriously whether SWAPO's internal wing should be granted freedom of speech, movement, and opportunities to make threats any longer. According to Mr de Wet, democracy should not be carried too far so that the peaceful existence of the territory's inhabitants is jeopardized.

SOUTH AFRICA

Security Commission With Mozambique Meets

MB251600 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1343 GMT 25 May 84

[Text] Pretoria, May 25, SAPA — The Joint Security Commission established in terms of the Nkomati Accord between South Africa and Mozambique recommended today that a permanent subcommission be established to deal with illegal immigration, repatriation, stock theft, and poaching across the two countries' common border. The commission met in Pretoria today to reveiw progress made in efforts to maintain peace along the border between the two stages.

The South African delegation was led by the commissioner of police, General Johann Coetzee, and the Mozambican delegation by the country's vice minister of defence, Colonel S, Vieira.

In a statement issued after the meeting, the commission said it had reviewed the progress made in meeting the security concerns of both countries in accordance with the Nkomati Accord.

It had also discussed further steps that could be taken to bring about a climate of peace along the countries' borders.

"The commission took note with satisfaction that actions had been taken and public statements made which confirmed the commitment of both the South African and Mozambique Governments to carry out the accord in letter and spirit," the statment said.

"The commission also decided to recommend to the two governments the establishment of a permanent joint subcommission to give consideration to questions arising in the vicinity of the common border between South Africa and Mozambique, such as illegal immigration, repatriation, stock theft, and poaching," it added.

It said the commission had also been notified of the approval by the two governments of the measures to be taken in respect of the protection of the Cahora Bassa power lines, and maintenance personnel.

The next meeting of the commission would be held in Maputo in June, the statement said.

Botha Leaves Cape Town To Begin European Trip

MB281247 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 28 May 84

[Text] Several members of the cabinet, members of parliament, and members of the Cape Provincial Council, were at the Ysterplaat Air Base this morning to see the prime minister, Mr P.W. Botha, and Mrs Botha off on their flight to Johannesburg at the start of their overseas visit.

Before his departure, Mr Botha said he was not setting out on a campaign of conquest, but to find a place for South Africa among the community of nations. He was given good wishes for his trip by the minister of internal affairs, Mr De Klerk, and the minister of constitutional development and planning, Mr Heunis.

Crocker's Arrival for Talks With Botha Reported

MB251200 Johannesburg International Service in English 1100 GMT 25 May 84

[Text] The American assistant secretary of state for African affairs, Dr Chester Crocker, has arrived in South Africa for talks with the South African minister of foreign affairs, Mr Roelof Botha, today. It is understood that Dr Crocker is likely to discuss independence for South-West Africa/Namibia. His visit came 4 days before the start of the seven-national European trip of the South African prime minister, Mr P.W. Botha.

Comments on Talks

MB251535 Johannesburg International Service in English 1500 GMT 25 May 84

[Text] The South African foreign minister, Mr Roelof Botha, has held talks in Johannesburg with the American assistant secretary of state for African affairs, Dr Chester Crocker. Dr Crocker told a reporter after the talks that he had discussed a number of issues with Mr Botha, including the question of independence for South-West Africa/Namibia, Angola, and the recent peace initiatives in southern Africa. Dr Crocker said he did not rule out the possibility of another meeting held of all the parties concerned in the negotiations for a settlement in South-West Africa/Namibia.

Dr Crocker is expected to fly to Lusaka later today for talks which will include SWAPO members.

[Johannesburg SAPA in English at 1439 GMT on 25 May reports in part: "The U.S. assistant secretary of state for African affairs, Dr Chester Crocker, and the South Africa foreign minister, Mr Pik Botha, met at Jan Smuts Airport this morning to discuss the latest developments in Southern Africa, a foreign affairs spokeswoman confirmed in Pretoria. The spokeswoman was unable to furnish details of the meeting, which was surrounded by an unusual degree of secrecy, but said the two men had 'exchanged views on current issues and recent developments in Southern Africa'."]

Man Arrested for Mine Blast; ANC Claim Refuted

MB251940 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0921 GMT 25 May 84

[Text] Pretoria, May 25, SAPA — A white man has been arrested in connection with an explosion which caused extensive damage to offices at the Western Holdings Gold Mine at Welkom on Monday night — for which the banned African National Congress [ANC] had earlier claimed responsibility, police confirmed in Pretoria today.

A police spokesman said the 31-year-old man, an ex-shift boss at the mine, who was reportedly fired, was expected to appear in the Welkom Magistrate Court on Monday on sabotage charges.

Police were also investigating a possible link between the man and three earlier blasts at the mine, the spokesman said. News of the man's arrest came only hours after the ANC had claimed responsibility for the blast in a radio broadcast from Addis Ababa. The organisation claimed to have dealt a "strategic blow against the army" by hitting the offices of the "aparthied mine."

A spokesman for the Republic Relations Division of the police in Pretoria dismissed the ANC claim as "ridiculous." He said in a statement to SAPA:

"According to news reports in several newspapers this morning... the ANC has claimed responsibility for the explosion at Western Holdings Mine, Welkom. This claim is repudiated as ridiculous by the South African Police, since investigations have shown that the ANC was not responsible for this blast. Claims of this nature confirm that the ANC hierachy does not have proper contact with its men in the field, and it gives the lie to their claim of having a solid infrastructure within the RSA. It also indicates that the ANC, because of their lack of success, will grab hold of every possible straw in an effort to gain some semblance of credibility and, due to recent setbacks, are endeavouring to regain imagined prestige."

MPC Delegation Meets Premier, Foreign Minister

MB260754 Johannesburg International in English
0630 GMT 26 May 84

[Text] A delegation of the Multiparty Conference [MPC] of South-West Africa/Namibia have held talks in Cape Town with the South African prime minister, Mr P.W. Botha, and with the South African minister of foreign affairs, Mr Roelof Botha. In a statement after the talks, the South African prime minister said the purpose of the talks, which had been held at the request of the MPC, was to enable the conference to inform him of its views before his forthcoming tour of Europe. Mr Botha pointed out that the delegates of the conference had recently held talks with African and other governments in the past few weeks. Members of the delegation from South-West Africa/Namibia declined to make any statements after the talks in Cape Town.

Holds Talks

MB251612 Johannesburg Domestic Service in Afrikaans
1400 GMT 25 May 84

[Text] A delegation of the Multiparty Conference [MPC] of South-West Africa is holding talks in Cape Town this afternoon with Prime Minister P.W. Botha. A spokesperson in the prime minister's office has confirmed that the talks are being held at the request of the MPC. It is not yet known whether or not a statement will be issued after the talks.

SWAZILAND

Minster Says ANC Members Expected To Leave

MB251920 Mbabane Television Service in English
1815 GMT 25 May 84

[Text] The minister for the interior, Mr King Mtetwa, told the Swaziland Television Broadcasting Corporation this afternoon that the government expects all ANC cadres to leave the country once they have either served sentences for their offenses, been acquitted on the various charges they faced, or have paid fines for them. Mr Mtetwa, who said that the Swazi Government cannot be held responsible for finding alternative asylum for those ANC men whom it expected to leave the country because it does not know where they came from, told our reporter that the government expected the ANC leadership to find alternative homes for their men once they had gone through the courts. Asked if the government could no longer accommodate any ANC personnel in the country, Mr Mtetwa said that only those registered ANC men who had misbehaved themselves would be asked to leave. He said the government was in touch with the office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees [UNHCR] to arrange alternative homes for such refugges.

Although Mr Mtetwa declined to say whether or not those ANC cadres who had been released after paying for their offenses would be redetained on release, it is our opinion the government has every right to apprehend and possibly lay charges on anyone found to have entered the country illegally. And since most ANC cadres entered the country illegally, it is almost certain that they will be redetained unless their leadership has arranged for their immediate passage out of the country soon after their release.

On the other hand, the UNHCR cannot arrange alternative asylum for refugees until they have stated where they want to go. It would, therefore, seem imperative that the ANC leadership arranges a passage for their men soon if it is to avoid further legal action being taken against them. And considering the past record of their behavior in Swaziland, which includes the cold-blooded murder of Swazi civilians and members of the security forces, the government would be obliged to redetain those ANC men it considered a threat to the country's security.

ZAMBIA

Bilateral Talks With Nigeria Open in Lusaka

AB281416 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 28 May 84

[Text] Nigeria and Zambia today began talks in Lusaka on bilateral and international issues. The Nigerian delegation to the talks was led by the minister of external affairs, Dr Ibrahim Gambari, while the Zambian foreign minister, Professor Lameck Goma, represented his country.

Addressing journalists at the primary session, Dr Gambari said that apartheid South Africa had become a great threat to the collective independence of African countries and stressed the need for the international community to further isolate the racist regime in Pretoria through embargoes.

African Peacekeeping Force Opposed

AB281422 Lagos Domestic Service in English
1200 GMT 28 May 84

[Text] Nigeria will not support any move by the OAU to replace Cuban troops in Angola with an African peacekeeping force. The minister of external affairs, Dr Ibrahim Gambari, stated this during an interview in Lusaka, Zambia. To support such a move, he said, would mean that Nigeria had accepted the demand by apartheid South Africa, that Cuban troops must be withdrawn before any meaningful process to Namibia's independence could take place.

A Radio Nigeria correspondent in the Zambian capital, Pius Obohun, quoted the minister as saying that Angola, as a sovereign nation, has the right to seek the assistance of any friendly country. He stressed that such rights should not be linked with the wish of the Namibian people to self-determination.

Dr Gambari also stressed the need for African countries to increase their contribution to liberation movements to enable the nationalists [to] counter the racists' continued aggression against the frontline states.

This minister arrived in Lusaka yesterday in continuation of his fact-finding tour of the frontline states. Dr Gambari, who will be in Gambia for 3 days, will deliver a special note from the head of state, Major General Muhammadu Buhari, to President Kenneth Kaunda.

Crocker Holds Talks in Lusaka on Regional Issues

MB280649 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
0500 GMT 28 May 84

[Text] The American assitant secretary of state for African affairs, Dr Chester Crocker, has held talks with President Kaunda of Zambia in Lusaka. He said afterwards that the United States did not want to bring extraneous East-West question into African situations. He said the United States was seeking a practical basis to solve the South-West African question. Dr Crocker, however, defended the American and South African demand for the withdrawal of an estimated 25,000 Cuban troops from Angola before the implementation of Resolution 435 of the UN Security Council.

Earlier, President Kaunda said the American insistence on a Cuban withdrawal could hamper peace efforts in the territory. Dr Crocker said the United States had no desire to block a successful troop withdrawal in southern Angola. His country was working for a future in which there would be no need for foreign troops to be across border where they did not belong. UPI reports that Dr Crocker may first meet Angolan officials, either in Lusaka or Luanda, before returning to South Africa later this week.

$360 Million Loan Pledged To Diversify Economy

MB250806 Lusaka Domestic Service in English
0500 GMT 25 May 84

[Text] World Bank and Zambian Government officials said last night that Zambia will get at least $360 million a year in official aid between now and 1986 to help it diversify its economy away from dependence on copper mining. Copper sales provide at least 90 percent of Zambia's export earnings, but falling reserves and long-term decline in world prices mean the country must develop other sources of income.

Willi Wapenhans, the World Bank vice president for East Africa, said it was a tremendous task that Zambia has set for itself to carry out its diversification before the copper runs out. He called on the World Bank consultative meeting, which ended in Paris yesterday, to bring together a Zambian delegation led by Finance Minister Luke Mwananshiku and 13 Western governments and 8 international organizations.

The aid is subject to Zambia agreeing to the IMF and the Paris Club of Western (?states' conditions).

President Kaunda Interviewed on Current Issues

MB281315 Lusaka Domestic Service in English
1830 GMT 27 May 84

[Interview with President Kenneth Kaunda on "Sunday Interview" program conducted by Charles Mando in Lusaka on 27 May — recorded]

[Excerpt] [Mando] Your Excellency, I would like to welcome you to the program tonight. There are two very important issues, sir, as of now, in regard to this country. First of all, the state of our economy, and second, very important too, is what I might call the stalemate over Namibia. Namibia has been with us for a very long time. We, as Zambians, have been affected directly and indirectly in many ways. Only recently in Lusaka there were the Namibia talks, which have had a fair share of interpretation. Some say they failed; others say they did not fail, they achieved something. Now we have before us a man who, no doubt, will give us his own interpretation of how he saw things in those talks.

Your Excellency, you have been insisting that the talks did not fail, and SWAPO says they failed. I am not too sure what the Multiparty Conference are saying, that is, the MPC. What is your own version as of now because there have been quite a few issues that have come up in the last 2 weeks since the talks reached a certain age which you might, in your own good way, give an intepretation.

[Kaunda] It is of great importance that when we speak of Namibia and the talks on Namibia that took place here in Lusaka, we should understand the background to the talks and what they were meant to achieve — that is, the objectives of those talks: In this respect, Charles, let us go back to the liberation wars which are still raging in Namibia. We are talking of people who have not been able to sit together for the last 18 years. I am talking only of the time when these liberation wars have been intensified. There is a longer period before that. We are talking of people who have looked at each other — very naturally, in this situation — with suspicion, people who have done worse than that, who have been fighting and killing each other for the last 18 years. For the first time ever, they came together under one roof, they shook hands and exchanged greetings, and wished each other well. They put their heads together to try to find out how those wars could end, how independence could come under UN Resolution 435.

This, then, very briefly, is the background to the conference that met in Lusaka. Now, in my opening remarks, I called on all those involved to put Namibia first, and their own party interests second. I did better than that. I wished them God's blessing and guidance. It is important to remember God in these things all the time. We needed His guidance and, in my humble opinion, He responded. The talks were designed first of all to last 2 days, and the MPC of internal parties under the adminstrator-general were to go on from here on that Sunday morning to Libreville, Gabon, on their extended visits to a number of African countries. They agreed, at our requests, to cancel [words indistinct] to spend an extra day in talks and discuss new formulas for reaching an agreement.

Now, what were basic problems? There was one common agreement. But first of all let us look at the agenda, which was prepared not by us — we were (?merely) [words indistinct] a group of people who were determined to try and help them come together. In that respect, we can say we helped to formulate the agenda. SWAPO gave us their point of view, the adminstrator-general gave us his point of view, and the MPC and the South Africans — through the adminstrator-general, of course — they all gave us their plan of agenda. They had started off with very different positions. But in the end, they all agreed on one main item on the agenda, namely the independence of Namibia: a. the implementation of Resolution 435, and b. any other matters.

Now I should tell your audience, Charles, that, beforehand, Zambia made it very clear to the South Africans, to the Namibians of all shades of opinions, that we in Zambia could only accept hosting this conference if it were all-round agreed that we were working as a subcommittee [words indistinct] Angola is a member of the United Nations. SWAPO is a member of the United Nations. Zambia is a member of the United Nations. All four groups or principals are members of the United Nations. There is no question. There is no way we could work outside Resolution 435. We (?therefore clearly understood) and all I did is to agree to host the conference. So in fact they were coming here knowing full well they were coming to discuss the implementation of 435 leading to the independence of Namibia.

All the discussions therefore were centered on the main item on the agenda. Points of agreement: Everybody agreed that Namibia must be independent. Points of (?disagreement) began to emerge when we came to discuss the question of the linkage between the presence of Cubans in Angola and the independence of Namibia. This, as you know, is an American point of view, supported by South Africa. The rest of the world says no. Now here it is interesting to note that all [words indistinct] and the National Party. These are led by two white Namibians who have links with South Africa, direct links to South African parties, the National Party led by our friend Mr Botha. They were the only ones who followed their masters in South Africa. They wanted the linkage to be agreed upon by the conference. The rest of the people said no, including the other internal parties.

Another point of difference was the implementation of 435. Here we had difficulties because the MPC believed that the United Nations is biased in favor of SWAPO. They were demanding that the United Nations should [words indistinct]. Zambia argued that, look, when the UN secretary general visited South Africa last year, he made it very clear that there was going to be impartiality on the part of the United Nations insofar as implementing Resolution 435 was concerned. This was not enough to satisfy our colleagues. So now, having identified these problems, the conference then set out to work out ways and means of resolving these points of differences. And it is here that we ran into difficulties.

Now, Charles, I know that if only we could have had an extra day we were going to resolve that problem of Namibia. But we ran out of time, unfortunately — we ran out of time. [words indistinct] We needed an extra day. To cut a long story short, I am saying that these talks did not fail and, discussing this matter with a number of countries that are involved in this, that are interested in it, [word indistinct] I have no doubt at all they take the same view as I do, and if these talks are going to be held, as they must be, it will serve to stop bloodshed in Namibia, then we need to plan for a few more days than we did at this first conference. Now to conclude my opening remarks, you can see from what I have said that the atmosphere was very good, and if I say very good I do not mean that there were no (?differences). They were there. As I have told you already, what else can you expect when [words indistinct] and bring them together for the first time. Just remember the case of Northern Rhodesia; how many constitutional conferences did we hold in Zambia—Northern Rhodesia then — and in London? Several. Different parties had to come together to iron out their differences until we reached an ideal situation. Well, fairly ideal. We agreed we could go ahead to independence. It took us — how many years? When we started talking to the British officially, from 1957 to 1964 — that is 7 years. So no Zambian who knows his or her own history could think in any shape or form that this first conference on Namibia's independence was a failure.

[Mando] Your Excelllency, would you say, then, that Zambia tried to impress on the parties involved in the last Namibia talks to stay on an extra day because it was important that the [words indistinct] as far as Zambia was concerned, did you try to impress on the different parties that if the talks went on for a further day, at least things may be ironed out a bit?

[Kaunda] Well, really, as I have said already, Charles, we had asked them to stay on an extra day, and they had readily agreed, putting off their own well-planned tour of African countries. This shows that our request was not taken lightly. They did once, and I thought it was wrong for us to ask them to stay on a little longer after that.

[Mando] For their own good?

[Kaunda] Well, really, I can't speak for them.

[Mando] Did you get the impression, Your Excellency, that they were being [words indistinct].

[Kaunda] I was cochairman [words indistinct] in detail because, whether they are coming back to Zambia or meeting in Windhoek or elsewhere, [words indistinct] give details to your audience on this matter. [3-minute passage indistinct]

[Mando] Things did not seem to go your way. You would have prefered to stay on in that meeting for another day.

[Kaunda] Charles, I told you that I was [words indistinct]. The negotiations began in 1957 [passage indistinct]. I am not saying it is going to take us 7 years to negotiate Namibia's independence — I am not saying that. I am saying it took us 7 years to come to the (?time) of sitting down in Government House [words indistinct] even in January 1957. In April 1964 it concluded, and we got our independence. Now, how can I be [words indistinct] over the question of Namibia? Zambia contributed, and we must thank God that He made that possible for us. [words indistinct] bloodshed as quickly as possible, as effectively as possible, but only in the interests of the people of Namibia. I am sure I cannot say I was disappointed, or I am disappointed now. I am very happy that we have hosted that conference. I am very happy with the outcome. I am able to see a little longer — a little further — than most people because I was there — I saw it all happen. It is a (?near miracle).

[Mando] Would you say there is a way to bypass linkage? For instance, there has been the suggestion to put UN troops on both sides to ensure that it is not the Cuban threat that is the problem.

[Kaunda] I really cannot decide for the people of Namibia, Charles. They will tell us what to do, if they want us to be involved. But I have said this publicly, and I repeat now, that it is most unfortunate — most unfortunate — that the U.S. Government has made this linkage block to (?check) the coming of independence to Namibia — a real pity, because this is now introducing East-West conflicts in Southern African politics. In my opinion, only that stands between Namibian independence and where we are today.

[Mando] How do you look at the report that Dr Crocker says [words indistinct] that UNITA is a very important nationalist movement which has been a long-standing friend and ally to the U.S.? What do you see — why do you think they are insisting on it because, obviously, from the way UNITA is operating, they are operating in very comfortable conditions. They are having to be interrupted by the MPLA, who overrun their villages from time to time, but they certainly seem to have a base in southern Angola. What could be the possible — the most possible — logical explanation for the support that UNITA enjoys?

[Kaunda] Charles, your audience should know that we live in a divided world, sad that it be. East-West confrontation, the Warsaw Pact, [words indistinct], the United Nations — we live in a divided world where the north and south face each other across the borders of the gulf of poverty [words indistinct] and, above all, it creates the exploitation of man by man [words indistinct] between the north and south. Unfortunately, it is these (?divisions) that propel big powers to take the very irresponsible (?stands) that they take on many issues of international importance to man.

Take [words indistinct]. How is it the American Government is concerned that UNITA should be accommodated in the Government of the MPLA — how is that their concern? How did they select UNITA as their friend? What [words indistinct] — what connection? It is the policy of [words indistinct]. They think the MPLA is pro-Soviet Union, and that UNITA is pro-America. This is a problem — it's a problem. Otherwise, Americans have no right to say to the Angolans: You do this, you do that — because it's an internal affair. What is required is for the Angolan people to discuss these matters themselves, without being told by an outside power.

UNITA is a force — of course, yes. Who has made it a force? It is the West, working through South Africa. They have given them all the war materiel they need, food — they're helping them build schools, hospitals, [word indistinct]. (?in their way) they are billing UNITA as a government — or alternative government — to the MPLA. That is the West. And, you know, that's [word indistinct] — that's why they call UNITA "our friend" [words indistinct].

[Mando] (?is it) effective?

[Kaunda] I would like to see somebody come into Zambia [passage indistinct]. If Zambia is working hard behind doors — open [word indistinct] — to try and help our brothers in Namibia and Angola, it is because, one, we want to avoid Angola signing an [word indistinct] agreement. Two, we want to avoid Angola becoming a second Lebanon in Southern Africa. I am able to (?shoulder the two) so the party and its government and the people of Zambia are working toward certain [passage indistinct].

[Mando] I don't know whether this question, Your Excellency, is rather too late — so many years have passed since what, in fact, has developed into a very sad situation in Angola — that is, the division between the parties. The way leading to independence for Angola is really troublesome in many ways. The position of national reconciliation should really be a top item on the agenda, but it doesn't seem to be the situation in Angola. Has there been any suggestion to that effect, as far as you know, because there seems to be — really, this is a breaking point for Angola, and it's now even spilling over into Namibia. An issue which is (?practically) an Angolan situation is spilling over and determining the independence for Namibia.

[Kaunda] I have no doubt that President Santos is (?minutely) aware of these problems. Like his predecessor, ex-President Neto, President Santos, while he is a Marxist-Leninist, he is also a nationalist. He loves Angola — I know that through personal knowledge of him. President Santos is a proud Angolan. He would like to be truly nonaligned [passage indistinct] by insistance of outside forces on telling him what to do about UNITA. If anybody came and told me [words indistinct], I would have told him to go to someplace I can't say now. It is wrong for anybody to tell [words indistinct], to tell his fellow leader what to do. This is what [word indistinct] in Angola today. Big powers want to dictate their dislikes and likes to the people of Angola through their leaders of the MPLA by using other forces like UNITA, (?FNLA), and [word indistinct]. This is wrong. Charles, I repeat this: President Santos is nonaligned. If he has not shown that now, he must get arms from Moscow to defend his country, because UNITA and the other parties are taking arms [passage indistinct].

[Mando] Are you satisfied with the U.S. stand on (?this issue)?

[Kaunda] Well, we have not only, Charles, talked about it openly [words indistinct], I have said this to the president himself — President Reagan — when he gave me the opportunity of meeting him last year. I explained the issue. We are not talking about something we hide from the Americans. We are talking about something I have personally discussed with the President, Secretary of State Shultz, Dr Chester Crocker [words indistinct] again, God willing. We don't hide these things. And it is the surest way of Americans losing Angola to the Soviet Union — the surest way. If they want Angola to be a friend — to be as friendly to them as it is to Moscow — then they must treat Angolans as equals, as brothers and sisters. It's the only way.

[Mando] Your excellency, is South Africa really — and you've said it on more than two occasions lately, before the Lusaka talks on Namibia and after — that you are convinced that Pieter Botha is being serious. If he is being serious, your excellency, you know he is a part of the stumbling block, together with the United States. How can you now convince Zambians that, in fact, South Africa is [words indistinct] and that this position may change — it doesn't seem to change.

[Kaunda] When you speak about that, dear Charles, it completes what I have been saying. I have been saying I believe Mr Botha is sincere, and if I am wrong, may God help me. I speak [words indistinct]. Openly and publicly I declare that someone who sends a fellow like you — meaning Van Niekerk, the adminstrator general of Namibia — must have some good intentions somewhere, no matter what [words indistinct], and intend to show very good intentions by the type of people he appoints to various posts. And, in my opinion, that man Van Niekerk is a very good man, obviously meaning to speed up the independence for Namibia. But at least you must accept, Charles, that South Africa needs America very much indeed. South Africa needs [words indistinct], and it is difficult to see how Pieter Botha can go against American interests or American stands on any issue, but least of all linkage. This is one of the major problems that we face.

I am not trying to whitewash Botha — I'm not. I am conscious of the fact that he is masterminding the so-called changes without consideration of the black man. I am conscious of that. And although I'm not a racist, I am black — as [words indistinct] as Oliver Tambo, and proud to be so; as well as Nelson Mandela, and proud to be so. Now, those have been left out of the so-called changes — to me they are cosmetic. But the most important [word indistinct] is hitting drums and gongs about the so-called changes, which include only some Coloreds and some Indians — South Africans of Indian origin and Colored (?of all nations). These are considered. The black man, who forms the vast majority of that country, is left out. I'm conscious of these things, Charles. But sometimes I want to see what can be done about Namibia, and I want to examine what Pik Botha is thinking about Namibia, and this I am thinking — if I am thinking correctly — [words indistinct] for Namibia.

On South Africa I maintain, Charles, that if only we can bring about change that will bring out lasting good in South Africa — that Botha and the whole lot of them talk to Mr Mandela, Oliver Tambo, and others, and plan together, white, black, yellow, brown, all of them together — then they have a chance. If they don't do that — I repeated that (?fact) I don't know how many times — South Africa is going to explode [words indistinct], and when she does it will make the French Revolution look like a Sunday morning children's picnic and involve us all. There is no way in which that thing can explode and expect that we would exist [words indistinct] in Zambia. So when we are talking about these things, we are not only being principled, but also a bit of [word indistinct], and an explosion in South Africa of the dimension I am talking about involves Zambia directly. There is no way in which we can escape that.

[Mando] In a no or yes answer, Your Excellency, don't you see the following as, in fact, delaying tactics by South Africa, buying time and waiting to pounce on a very weak position when she is in a stronger position: the Nkomati agreement, nonaggression pact with Angola [words indistinct]?

[Kaunda] [laughs] And you expect me to say that you are not right? How do I say it?

[Mando] [words indistinct]

[Kaunda] [words indistinct] Some time, not today it happens, because I have told you already that don't expect an Nkomati in Angola [words indistinct]. Even as I say it, Charles, I support Samora Machel fully — fully. Zambia supports Nkomati fully, but we don't want to (?stick it) in Angola. That thing is a [word indistinct] for the struggle in South Africa, for the struggle to liberate South Africa from apartheid, and we have no way in which you can read that any other way (?inescapably). So we don't want Nkomati in Angola. We support Nkomati in Mozambique, because if Samora Machel did not do that, we would have had no [words indistinct] in Mozambique, and the so-called MNR. That is what South Africa wants to do here through [words indistinct]. That is what South Africa wants to do in Angola through UNITA. That is what South Africa wanted to do in Angola and Mozambique itself. That is what South Africa wants to do in Lesotho, in Botswana, in Zimbabwe. So, we've got to be careful about it. I understand it, but we are talking principally about Namibia, when I speak of Botha being sincere.

[Mando] The attitude of Swaziland against the ANC has been rather unfavorable. What is your opinion of what they're doing to the ANC — handing them over even to the South Africans for the sake of meeting the demands that go with the agreements that were signed [words indistinct] between the two countries?

[Kaunda] Charles, that is a very complicated matter. I want to [words indistinct] you that both ANC and Swaziland have asked us, Zambia, to see if we can meet some time and work out this matter. I, therefore, do not want to comment at this point in time. We must wait until the opportunity our colleagues are giving us has been used to see whether we can find a solution to the differences between ANC and Swaziland.